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TODAY IN
arab news

Arab peace plan

King Fahd affirmed the importance of international contacts undertaken by the seven-man committee set up by the Arab summit during the Monday night meeting of the Council of Ministers. — Page 2

U.S. earnest, Cueliar says

United Nations Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar who met with President Reagan and U.S. officials has said that he is convinced that the U.S. administration is very earnest about arms cut talks with the Soviets. — Page 6

Banks lending

International banks, alarmed by debt repayment problems of Latin American countries, switched much of their lending to safer Western industrialized countries last summer; the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) says. — Page 10

IMF funding

Finance ministers of the Group of 10 leading industrial nations and Switzerland agreed to boost the lending resources which the International Monetary Fund (IMF) can draw on to relieve the financial problems of Third World countries. — Page 11

India fights back

Sunil Gavaskar and Mohinder Amarnath led India's fightback as Pakistan reaped only partial success on the fourth day of the fourth cricket Test at Hyderabad. — Page 12

Korean unity call

South Korean President Chun repeats his call for the unification of Koreas and urges direct talks with North Korea. — Page 16

Riyadh denial

RIYADH, Jan. 18 (SPA) — The government denied Tuesday press reports that it had hired 10,000 Bangladeshi soldiers.

Information Minister Dr. Muhammad Abd Al-Yamani strongly refuted a report by the Egyptian daily *Ahram*, quoting a leftist Bangladeshi newspaper *Noman Karim*, that the Kingdom had signed an agreement with Bangladesh to hire 10,000 soldiers.

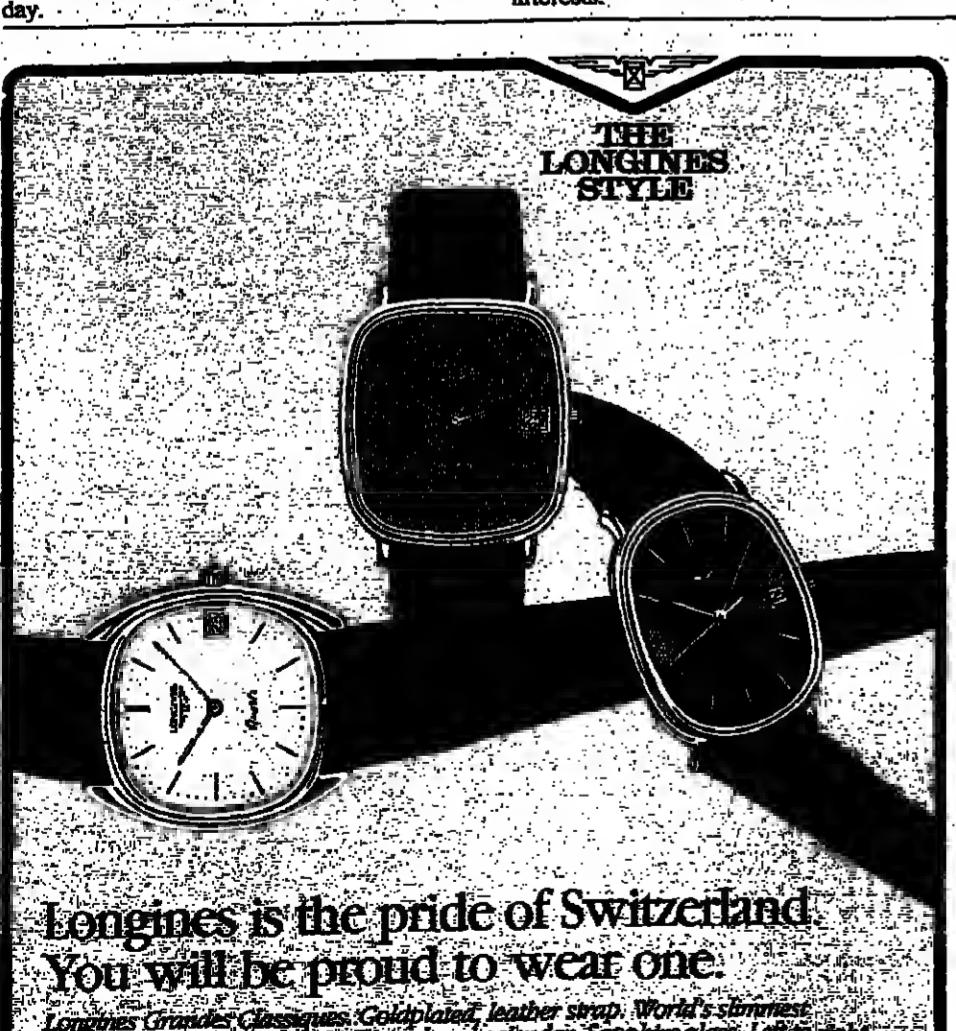
\$750m cocaine seized in U.S.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 18 (R) — Government agents came under fire in San Francisco's dockland Tuesday when they poised on a gang of alleged drug smugglers and seized 400 pounds (180 kg) of cocaine, with an estimated \$750 million on the black market.

Officials said the haul, taken from a gang apparently recovering bags from the water near a Colombian freighter, was the biggest cocaine seizure on the U.S. west coast and one of the first by the newly-formed federal narcotics task force.

The officials said 12 men, believed to be Colombians, would be charged with conspiring to import cocaine. The offense carries a maximum penalty of 15 years in jail.

Drug enforcement agency spokesman Steven Wood said customs men made a routine search of the freighter *Ciudad de Cucuta* shortly after it arrived from Colombia Sunday.



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By Israeli forces

Lebanon links ties renewal to pullout

BEIRUT, Jan. 18 (AP) — Lebanon has linked agreement on ending a 35-year-old state of war with Israel to complete withdrawal of the Israeli Army from this Mediterranean country, a Lebanese government spokesman said Tuesday.

This position was made clear by Lebanon's chief delegation Antoine Fattal in the seventh round of withdrawal talks with American and Israeli negotiators held Monday in Beirut's southern suburb of Khalde. The spokesman said.

Habib came to the Middle East last week on instructions from President Reagan to speed up negotiations.

Peace hopes good, Hussein tells Egypt

CAIRO, Jan. 18 (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak has received an optimistic message from Jordan's King Hussein on his recent talks with President Reagan and Palestinian leaders on prospects for Middle East peace negotiations, diplomatic sources said Tuesday.

They said Hussein indicated he received assurances in Washington talks with Reagan a few weeks ago that the United States will take "a firm stand" against Israel's continued construction of settlements in the occupied Jordan West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Hussein also told Mubarak that Yasser Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, agreed in recent talks with the monarch in Amman that Palestinian representatives be included in a Jordanian delegation that would participate in broadened peace negotiations with Israel.

In Tel Aviv, meanwhile, U.S. presidential

Nakasone, Reagan view trade

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (AP) — U.S. President Ronald Reagan opened trade and defense talks with Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone Tuesday, saying relations between their two countries are "just like a happy marriage, sometimes you argue but it's still a happy marriage."

Nakasone sat down with Reagan before a blazing log fire in the oval office of the White House hoping, in the words of his aides, to create "a personal relationship of trust" to eclipse an era of "nagging each other about trivial problems."

Observers predict what one senior official called "tough, frank discussions" between the two leaders, with Reagan saying "prompt Japanese action" is essential to head off protectionist pressures in the U.S. Congress.

Since Nakasone took office last November, his government has made some concessions, including increasing some quotas and relaxing import tariffs on 323 products.

"We still feel there is a very long way to go before U.S. products enjoy the same freedom of access to Japanese markets that Japanese products enjoy here," said the official who briefed reporters on the condition he not be identified by name.

Nakasone, speaking to reporters before leaving Tokyo for Washington, said the great danger for future relations between the two countries "is for us to become irritated and emotional and lose sight of our long-range interests."

This trade imbalance has sparked calls in

the Congress for protectionist legislation to slam the door on Japanese imports, specially automobiles.

"There is a lot of bad feeling against the Japanese up on Capitol Hill," a congressional source said.

The couple have been married for 26 years.

Mother and child are both doing well,

the agency said. Gen. Ershad only announced

on Friday that he expected to be a father soon.

The town has been harassed for the past year by Mujahideen who believe its capture is the key to gaining control of the entire province.

Ershad gets son after 26 years

DHAKA, Jan. 18 (AP) — Begum

Ershad, wife of Bangladesh military ruler Lt. Gen. Hussain Muhammad Ershad, has given birth to her first child, a son, the official BSS news agency reported Tuesday.

The couple have been married for 26 years.

Mother and child are both doing well,

the agency said. Gen. Ershad only announced

on Friday that he expected to be a father soon.

20m Americans affected

Herpes vaccine developed

CHICAGO, Jan. 18 (R) — Medical researchers using genetic engineering have developed a

vaccine that may halt the spread of the incurable physically transmitted disease herpes.

Virtually unknown outside medical circles until recently, herpes has become a national

preoccupation in America, and leading to an upsurge in private research. An estimated 20

million Americans suffer from herpes and new cases are believed to be occurring at an

astounding rate of half a million a year.

Bernard Roizman, a professor of microbiology at the University of Chicago who has been

studying the disease for 20 years, thinks he may have found a possible answer. A new

herpes vaccine he developed contains five laboratory virus which stimulates the body's

system to fight against the natural virus.

A laboratory virus, which Roizman says has proved effective on monkeys, is constructed out

of genetically engineered chromosomes.

Later this year Roizman will test his single-injection vaccine on a group of French and

American couples in which the partner suffers the disease. According to the information

released by the University of Chicago, Roizman believes his vaccine will last longer than the

other used to combat viruses.

If it proves successful, be said, the vaccine may be available to the public in three to five

years, and perhaps be routinely administered to high school students before they become

sexually active.

Roizman is by no means the only researcher looking for a vaccine against herpes. The

Seattle Herpes Research Clinic has said it hopes to begin testing the vaccine on volunteers this

year.

Molecular Genetics Inc. and American Cyanamid are jointly working on a vaccine. Several

other drug companies and private researchers are also actively involved in herpes research.

But the studies and announcements on research in the field suggest that the disease may

some day be prevented, but not one of them has even speculated on a cure for those already afflicted.

"The whole issue on a cure may exceed the basic purview of vaccine at this time," said

Samuel Knox of the American Social Association. Known, program director of the association's

Herpes Resource Center in California, told Reuters that no one really knows for sure how

many people are suffering from the disease.

Herpes is said to be of two types — one causes sores of the lips and the other on the genitals.

But due to oral contact and continued spread of the disease, the boundaries between the two

have become blurred.

Knox said the 20 million herpes victims figure published by the U.S. Center for Disease

Control is probably the "best guess that can be made at present." He thinks the enormous

media attention recently given to herpes has blown the problem out of proportion. But he also

believes publicity has helped, especially in alerting women to the dangers of having herpes in

pregnancy — a problem which leads to the deaths of an estimated 3,000 babies in the U.S. each

year.

In some victims herpes appears only sporadically, in others as regularly as once a month,

during which time the virus can be transmitted by physical contact. But while the research goes

on America's moral preachers and entrepreneurs are taking advantage of the situation.

Saddam arrives for talks

BY A Staff Writer

RIYADH, Jan. 18 — The president of Iraq Saddam Hussein arrived here Tuesday evening for talks with King Fahd and other Saudi Arabian leaders. He was received by the King at the airport.

Saddam left Baghdad in the company of Crown Prince Abdullah who had been visiting Iraq and Syria the last few days in an attempt to bring about an improvement in relations between the two countries.

Their ties have been severely strained since the outbreak of the war between Iraq and Iran more than two years ago.

Syria has been openly supporting Iran and has gone to the extent of closing down the pipeline that used to carry Iraqi oil exports to the Mediterranean terminals.

The action gravely curtailed Iraqi oil exports and earnings and further aggravated relations between the two neighboring states.

Algeria has, meanwhile, stepped up its mediation to bring about an end to the fighting as a prelude to the start of talks between Iraq and Iran about a possible settlement.

Kabul troops defect en bloc

ISLAMABAD, Jan. 18 (AP) — Hundreds of Afghan troops defected en masse last week from the garrison town of Khost after killing several Soviet advisers and Afghan officers.

Western diplomatic sources here said Tuesday.

The sources said Soviet authorities in Kabul, the capital, immediately dispatched helicopter gunships to track down the defectors and prevent them from joining Mujahideen positioned in hills surrounding the town.

The rebellion, which if true, would be the largest of its kind in over three years of war, follows another uprising over the new year at Nader Shab-Kot, one of a dozen Afghan militia outposts ringing Khost.

In that incident the Afghan soldiers killed 30 of their own officers before retreating with their weapons to the hills where 500 Muslim fighters of the fundamentalist Yunis Khalis group are based.

Khost, 30 miles (48 kms) west of the Pakistani border in scenic Paktia province (state), is a garrison town for 1,000 Afghan troopers and 100 Soviet advisers and their dependents.

The town has been harassed for the past year by Mujahideen who believe its capture is the key to gaining control of the entire province.

Panel exonerates Thatcher

LONDON, Jan. 18 (R) — The British government could not have prevented or foreseen last year's Argentine seizure of the Falkland Islands, an official inquiry into the war's origins found Tuesday.

The report of the six-month-long inquiry into last year's conflict concluded that it would not be justified in blaming or criticizing the government for Argentina's decision to take military action.

<

Kingdom urges Arabs keep peace momentum on

RIYADH, Jan. 18 (SPA) — The importance of international contacts undertaken by the seven-man committee set up by the Arab summit was affirmed by King Fahd during the Monday night meeting of the Council of Ministers here. According to acting Information Minister Hussein Mansouri, the king emphasized the need to keep the momentum going since the Arab peace plan has received a positive reaction from all over the world.

During the meeting the king explained to the council the outcome of the two-day visit by King Hussein of Jordan, which ended Monday and the current movements in the Arab world. The king emphasized the need to unify the Arab stand and note the time factor in order to overcome Zionist plans to expand at the expense of Arab land and Palestinian rights.

King Fahd added that in its efforts to uphold the Arab cause, the Kingdom is willing to bypass side differences and help

Aba Al-Khail lauds UNIDO role, affirms Saudi economic beliefs

RIYADH, Jan. 18 (SPA) — The Kingdom is satisfied with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization's (UNIDO) programs carried out in more than 100 countries all over the world according to Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aha Al-Khail on the opening of a two-day meeting on planning guidelines which began here Tuesday.

The minister said that the UNIDO program is now a vital factor for many investment and development projects worth more than \$1.5 billion throughout the world. He noted

improve and promote inter-Arab relations to enable it to face up to Zionist conspiracies.

The king affirmed the Kingdom's standing commitment to obtain the Palestinian's rights, restoration usurped Arab land, particularly Jerusalem. Moreover, the king expressed his hope that Lebanon succeeds in its efforts to restore stability and security to its land.

The council then listened to a report from Finance and National Economy Minister Muhammad Aha Al-Khail on the proposed economic and technical agreement due to be signed between the Kingdom and India. The council authorized the finance minister to go ahead and sign the agreement. It also authorized the Hall Company for Agricultural Development to invest in 35,000 hectares of government land. Mansouri said that the decision was taken following a request by Agriculture Minister Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Sheikh.

King Fahd added that in its efforts to uphold the Arab cause, the Kingdom is willing to bypass side differences and help

that the Kingdom has participated in this program directly or through related agencies like AGFUND and the development fund of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

The Kingdom was also recipient of some help from these programs, the minister said, through the technical projects carried out here like water, agricultural, vocational training and civil aviation projects.

The meeting, which is in its third session, is attended by representatives of many developing countries and all Arab states.



King Fahd

Fahd plans African tour, cooperation

DAKAR, Jan. 18 (SPA) — King Fahd will pay a visit to friendly countries in Africa. Information Minister Dr. Muhammad Abdou Yaman said here.

He told reporters that the King attached special importance to developing relations with friendly African states and to backing them as well as increasing bilateral cooperation and understanding.

The minister, who was touring information establishments, paid tribute to friendly relations between Saudi Arabia and Senegal and the constructive role played by the latter in the Islamic world.

The minister signed an information cooperation agreement between the Kingdom's radio, television and the Saudi Press Agency and their Senegalese counterparts. The agreement calls for exchanging programs, news and expertise and setting up offices and direct lines for the two news agencies to facilitate their work. He called for stepping up cooperation and consolidating means of direct communication among Islamic states.

Ex-senator accepts petroleum university's lecture invitation

DAMMAM, Jan. 18 — Former U.S. Senator James Abourezk, who is also the chairman of the Committee Resisting Discrimination Against Arabs in the United States has agreed to give a lecture at the Petroleum and Minerals University here titled "American Policy in the Middle East" on Sunday Feb. 13.

According to *Al-Riyadh*, Abourezk's acceptance comes in response to an invitation sent out by the Director of the University Dr. Bakr Abdullah Bakr to some of the leading politicians and men of thought outside the Kingdom to participate in the cultural festival held annually by the university.

BRIEFS

Mosque Council honored
JEDDAH (SPA) — King Fahd Tuesday sent a cable of thanks to Sheikh Abdul Aziz ibn Baz, chairman of the Higher Council of Mosques in reply to the chairman's message to the king on the occasion of the council's eighth session, which is being held in Makkah. Participants in the Higher Council of Mosques were honored by the Makkah cultural club during a dinner on Monday night.

Minister returns

RIYADH (SPA) — Minister of State Muhammad Ibrahim Massoud returned home Monday night from Algiers after delivering a message from King Fahd to Algerian President Chadli Benjedid. The message was part of the king's consultations with Arab brothers for the benefit of Arabs and Muslims.

Moroccan relations

RABAT (SPA) — The Kingdom's ambassador to Morocco Ali Majid Qabani met here Monday with Moroccan State Minister for Foreign Affairs Ali Qabani.

Gabonese delegation

JEDDAH (SPA) — Two visiting Gabon-

Philippines Embassy sponsored

Labor center opened to meet employers, employees needs

By Suresh Shah
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, Jan. 18 — In order to meet the growing needs of Saudi Arabian employers and Filipino workers, a labor center has been created to strengthen further the labor office at the embassy, according to Philippine Embassy Labor Attaché Reynaldo B. Parungao.

The center is now in its initial stage of organization and is expected to be fully operational within a month. It is being created under executive order 787 to undertake, consolidate and enhance labor, employment and welfare services of the Ministry of Labor and Employment in the area, Parungao said.

He told *Arab News*, the center's objective is to systematize and rationalize the administrative, management and supervision of overseas employment and construction contracts for the Philippine-based companies.

He said it has been noted that the common problems encountered by employers in manpower requisition are delay and lack of basic information on procedures to undertake, making them easy prey to manpower brokers, agents, subagents and fixers, thus exposing them not only to useless expenses paid for commissions but also to receiving poor quality workers.

On the other hand, money is often squeezed from workers just to obtain a chance to work overseas. Many times, the criteria for selection of workers is no longer the skills of individual applicants but who can pay the price, he added.

"Conscious of the adverse effects of these unabated malpractices of unscrupulous middlemen, which should now be controlled if not totally eliminated, the Philippine government has envisioned the setting up of the labor center," Parungao said.

He said the center has the responsibility of facilitating the deployment of workers with the least expense and inconvenience to employers. It will also ensure that employers are dealing only with duly licensed and legitimate recruitment companies in Manila. It will also assist employers in the preparation of the required documents for their manpower needs, including dissemination of relevant information on the requirements of both governments.

Aware of the complaints from employers regarding behavior of some workers, which has stained the image of the great majority of Filipino workers, the government has now adopted strict measures to ensure that only the right people are allowed to work abroad," Parungao said.

Besides the regular clearance issued by the National Bureau of Investigation, which conducts a rigid examination of the good moral character of a person from birth, the additional clearances now must come from the municipal or city mayor where the applicant resides, clearance from the Barangay or community leader of the locality where he lives or has a residence and clearance from



Reynaldo B. Parungao

the office of the president.

He said in order to ensure that the requirements and standards of the market are met, the Ministry of Labor and Employment is embarking on a mandatory orientation program for all applicants for overseas jobs under the Overseas Workers Institute. The program is designed to prepare the worker physically, psychologically and morally for his new environment and the working conditions of the country of destination including its culture and laws.

Parungao said the ministry is considering some policy changes towards deregulating present rules on recruitment with a view to placing more responsibilities on the recruiting agents.

Building firm sets -up 20m brick plant

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH, Jan. 18 — The National Clay Brick and Building Materials Industry Company has signed a contract here with Morando Impianti of Asti, a leading brick plant manufacturing company from Italy, for setting up a brick manufacturing plant near Riyadh, according to Saudi Technical Services and Trading Group Administration and Commercial Manager S.A. Munir Ahmad.

Ahmad said the contract is on a turn-key basis for annual production of 150,000 tons or approximately 20 million hollow red bricks at the plant to be set up at Mizahima, about 100 kilometers from Riyadh.

National Clay Bricks Chairman Hani Al Eman signed the contract on behalf of the company whereas Morando Impianti was represented by its Regional Manager Franco Graziano and Area Sales Manager Ivo Pellicci.

Munir Ahmad said the plant construction will be completed in record time, as it will be entirely prefabricated according to the most advanced technology.

"The first bricks are expected to be produced within 14 months," he said. Both parties also entered into production, management and technical assistance agreements for a period of five years.

The Saudi Technical Services and Trading also known as Eman Group, owns Saudi Marine Transportation Co., Saudi Concrete Prefab Industries, Saudi International Investment Co., and National Real Estate Development and Management Tamimi and Fouad and Al Eman Food Co.

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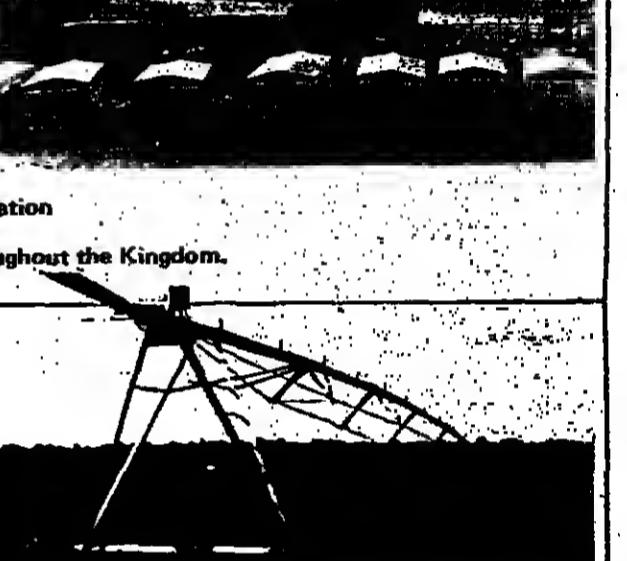
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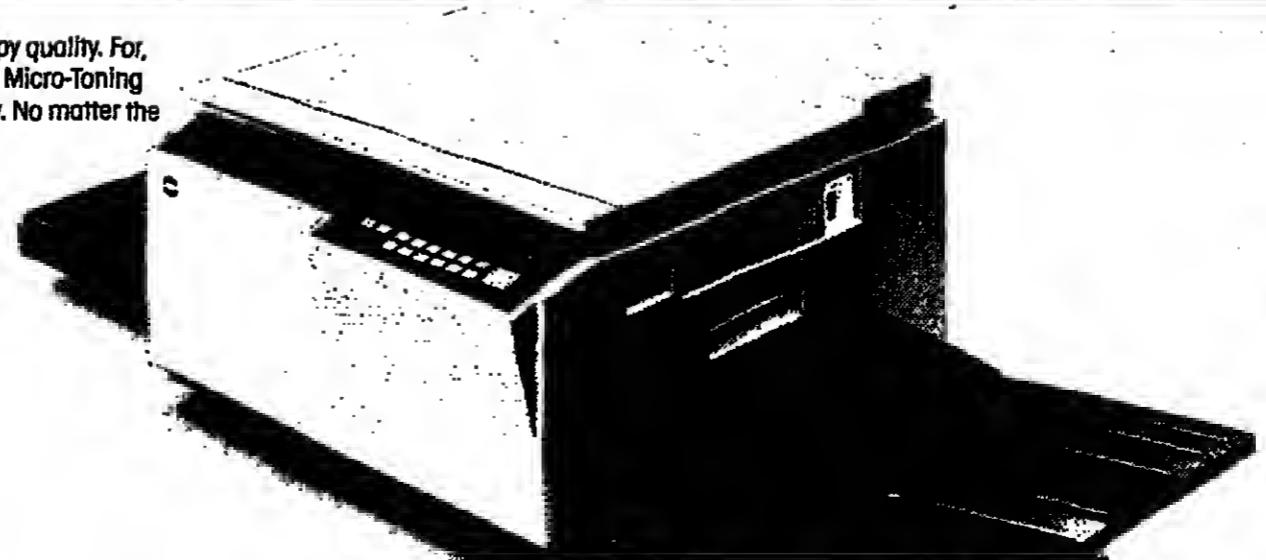


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مكتبة من مطبوعات

Former U.S. envoys head trade group visit

By a Staff Writer

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 — A 30-member American business group representing extensive U.S. interests in the Kingdom will arrive in Riyadh on Jan. 22 to hold three days of talks with Saudi Arabian government and business executives, according to a U.S. embassy statement.

The exclusive group, formed to coordinate activities of American companies who have financial interests in the Kingdom, is headed by two former American ambassadors to the Kingdom — John C. West and Robert G. Neumann, who hold the posts of chairman and vice-chairman of the group.

The interests of more than 50 American firms will be represented by the chief and senior executives during the visit.

"Our purpose is to create a forum for discussion and analysis of matters of common interest affecting American business interests in the Kingdom," West said.

The roundtable was formed to better coordinate American businessmen's views on issues affecting U.S. business with the Kingdom, and to better facilitate communication.

Saud nomination, championships on Table Tennis Union agenda

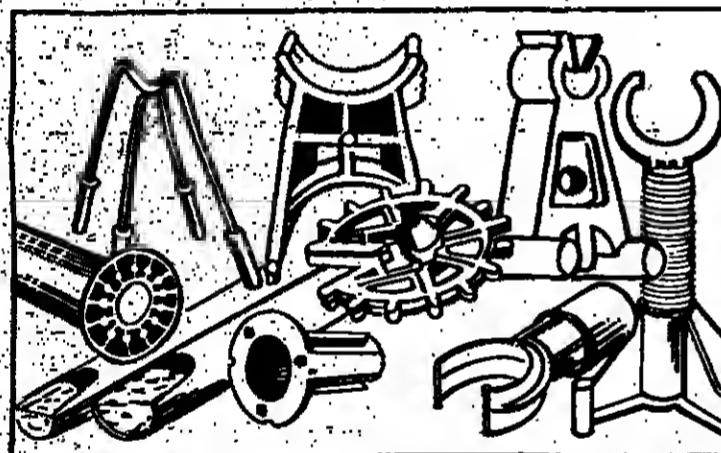
RIYADH, Jan. 18 (SRA) — The General Assembly of the Arab Table Tennis Union is scheduled to hold its meetings in Casablanca between Jan. 20-26.

The agenda of its meeting include a number of topics among them approval of the board; of director's choice of Prince Saud Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia as secretary-general of the organization. The general secretary's report on the activities of the board of directors during the period between 1980-1982 will be discussed. It contains the most important achievements of the union from 1976 to date.

Also on the agenda is the fixing a date for the eighth Arab Championship scheduled to be held in Morocco in 1983, examining proposed amendments by member states on conditions for joining the Arab Championship and contributions by member unions for expenditures of holding such a championship. A report will be presented by the representative of the Jordanian Union for Table Tennis regarding preparation for holding the ninth Arab championship in Amman in 1984 and setting a date for it.

The start of something big in Saudi Arabia

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Saudi producers, Aramco debate work ties

By Shahid Orakzai

Al-Khabar Bureau

DAMMAM, Jan. 18 — Aramco officials and leading Saudi Arabian and foreign consultants engaged in the Kingdom patiently hear the grievances of industrialists here as the three-day seminar on "Promotion of Saudi Manufactured Products" entered its second day here.

The seminar, organized by the Eastern Province Chamber of Commerce and Industry with the cooperation of Aramco's Local Industrial Development Department (LIDD), aims to promote understanding between the oil company's purchasing departments and Saudi Arabian industries.

About 300 delegates attending the seminar Tuesday formed into four separate groups to have a close look at Saudi Arabian products and thread bare technical discussion in the conference rooms of Dammam Oberoi. Participants were scheduled to formulate their recommendations for future relationships between the national industry and Aramco by Wednesday afternoon.

The chamber's effort to convince Aramco's project consultants and designers abroad to give preference to Saudi Arabian products began in mid-1981 when a chamber

team comprising eight local manufacturers visited Aramco's consultants in Hague, Netherlands. The idea was "to explain to them in a technical and professional way the level of industrialization that Saudi Arabia has reached and the quality of its products", according to Khalid A. Al-Zamil, the chamber's first deputy president at the inaugural session Monday.

"The Hague visit," he added, "was followed by another to Houston. The two visits resulted in the establishment of resolutions and recommendations to Aramco top management to be adopted and implemented in their procurement system."

Emphasizing the efforts made by the chamber in this direction Zamil said that the number of Saudi Arabian manufacturers approved by Aramco had risen to over 250 from a meager 30 in mid-1981. He said he hoped that the current seminar would try to establish a system whereby a great deal of future Aramco construction and development projects will heavily depend on locally manufactured products.

The current seminar with Aramco, Zamil said, "was the first of the many seminars to follow with government agencies to achieve our objectives in promoting locally manufactured products." He also appealed to local

200 doctors participate in Riyadh seminar, discuss local infertility

By Omar Bassadiq

Riyadh Bureau

RIYADH, Jan. 18 — A one-day symposium on infertility was held at the College of Medicine, King Saud University here with more than 200 participating doctors and specialists attending from various parts of the world.

Apart from the local specialists, there were several guest speakers from outside the Kingdom. These included Professor David Baird of the Center for reproductive Biology of the University of Edinburgh and Professor Ian Cooke of Jessup Hospital, Sheffield, Britain.

Among local guest speakers were Dr. Hussein Othman, head of the Infertility Division of the King Faisal Specialist Hospital; Dr. Adel Youssef of the Department of Urology, Riyadh Central Hospital; and Dr. Muhammad Abomelha, who is director and consultant urologist at the Department of Medical Studies at the Riyadh Al-Kharj Hospital.

The welcoming address was made by Dr. Fahad A. Jabbar, dean of the College of Medicine, King Saud University and chairman of the Joint Board for Postgraduate

Medical Education, under whose auspices the symposium was held.

The organizer of the symposium was Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Meshari, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the College of Medicine. At the end of the symposium Dr. Meshari made some concluding remarks on the achievements of the symposium. He said it threw light on infertility as a major problem in this part of the world.

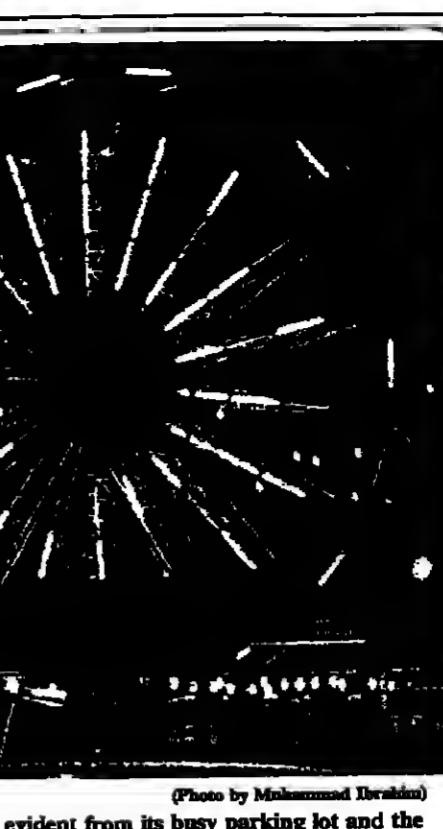
"Analysis of the local infertility problems in consultation with the various countries of the world benefited tremendously the future management of infertility for this area," Dr. Meshari said. He said it gave enlightenment about the most modern approach of investigating and managing the problem of infertility "including the recent endocrinological aspects."

Professor Meshari said the symposium gave indication of "future hope for those who are unsuccessful in having a child."

The symposium concentrated on female problems and on the problem of male infertility which, according to Dr. Meshari constitutes about a quarter of the infertility problem in this country.

Prayer Times

WEDNESDAY	Makkah	Madinah	Riyadh	Dammam	Buraidah	Tabuk
Fajr (Dawn)	5:36	5:42	5:14	5:04	5:28	6:02
Dbahr (Noon)	12:31	12:32	12:03	11:50	12:14	12:44
Asr (Afternoon)	3:39	3:36	3:07	2:51	3:15	3:42
Maghreb (Sunset)	6:02	5:58	5:29	5:12	5:37	6:02
Isha (Night)	7:32	7:28	6:59	6:42	7:07	7:32



(Photo by Mohammed Ibrahim)

NIGHT-TIME FUN: The popularity of the Al-Hamra amusement park near the Corniche is evident from its busy parking lot and the cafeteria nearby. Overlooking this night-time scene is the giant Ferris wheel which is enjoyed by children and adults alike.

UNICEF, WHO obtain \$ 8 million

KUWAIT, Jan. 18 (SPA) — The administrative committee of the Arab program for the U.N. Development Organization (AGFUND) has concluded a meeting held under the chairmanship of Prince Talal ibn Abdul-Aziz, honorary assistant secretary-general of UNICEF.

Prince Talal told reporters that the committee agreed to allocate \$6,250,000 for UNICEF and \$1,765,000 for the World Health Organization (WHO). The committee also approved the allocation of \$1,200,000 for the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and one million dollars for UNESCO, as well as \$900,000 for the U.N. Development Program and \$860,000 for the U.N. Environment Program.

Foreign Ministry fêtes outgoing Greek ambassador

By K.S. Ramkumar
Arab News Staff

JEDDAH, Jan. 18 — The Foreign Ministry Monday night gave a banquet in honor of Greek Ambassador Pandelis Mengelis, on the termination of his assignment in the Kingdom. High ranking officials and diplomatic envoys accredited here attended the banquet.

Training center expansion expected

DAMMAM, Jan. 18 (SPA) — More than 3,000 employees are working now at the consolidated training centers established by the Arabian American Oil Company Aramco. Al-Bilad said the number is expected to reach 4,250 within five years, while the area occupied by these centers is expected to grow

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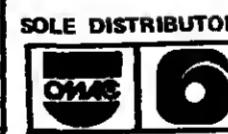
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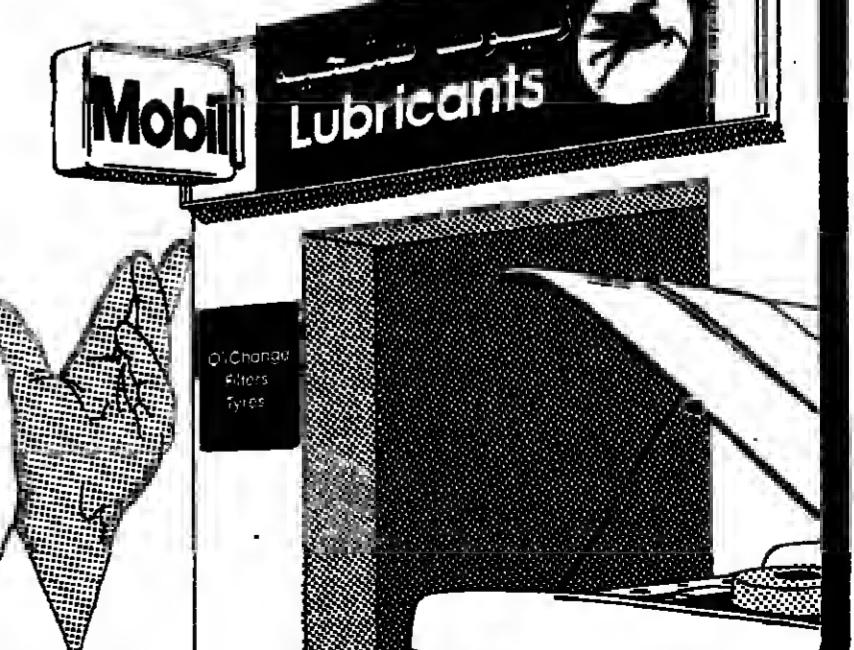
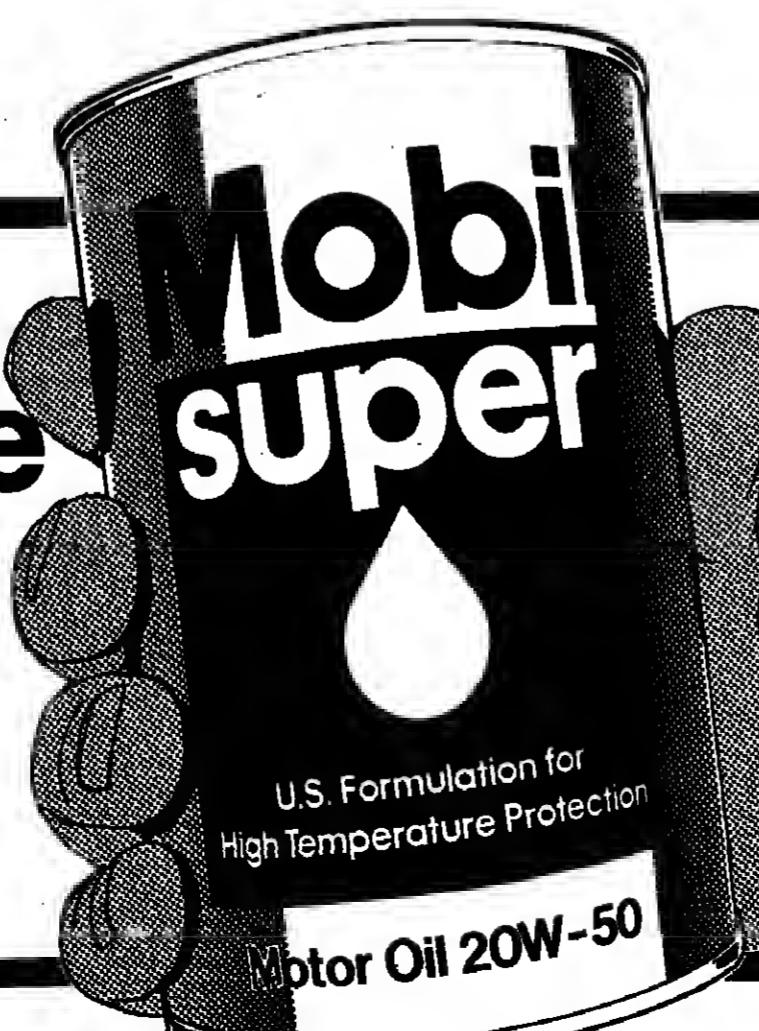
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Through settlements on W. Bank

Ford, Carter say Begin blocks peace

NEW YORK, Jan. 18 (R) — Former Presidents Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter said Israel's policy of continuing to build settlements on occupied Arab lands was the major obstacle to Middle East peace.

In a jointly-written article in *Reader's Digest* magazine the two ex-presidents said the settlements policy of Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin was preventing moderate Arab efforts for a peaceful resolution of the Middle East crisis.

They added that if Israel was to halt any future settlements — an item asked for in President Reagan's peace plan — this act alone might "break the diplomatic log-jam" that was stalling any real movement toward peace.

They said: "It is incumbent upon the Begin government to realize that, however it may define its intentions in the West Bank and Gaza, however it may seek to rationalize its action there, the evidence is

convincing to the Arab world and beyond that the Israeli leaders have simply chosen to seize these lands and hold them by force. This policy is the major obstacle to any moderate Arab initiative for a peaceful resolution of differences."

The two ex-presidents called on the United States to be ready to commit every political resource to bringing Arabs and Israelis together and said it was vitally important for Jordan's King Hussein to step in and negotiate with Israel.

The two ex-presidents also called on Israel to return to the commitments it made on Palestinian autonomy during the Camp David peace talks held under the auspices of President Carter.

They said: "Our painful conclusion from events thus far is that the Begin government is not living up to those commitments. It has shown little inclination to grant real autonomy to the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza areas."

Former Iranian minister arrested on drug charges

DUESSELDORF, West Germany, Jan. 18 (R) — Former Iranian Deputy Premier Sadeq Tabatabai has been taken into custody on suspicion of drug smuggling after a public prosecutor said he might try to flee West Germany, a prosecution spokesman said Tuesday.

Tabatabai, 39, a deputy premier in Iran's first post-revolutionary government in 1979 who is related to Ayatollah Khomeini by marriage, was arrested 10 days ago at Dusseldorf Airport. The public prosecutor said 1.6 kg (3.5 pounds) of opium with a street value of 40,000 marks (\$17,100) were found in his luggage.

A local court initially released him on bail of 200,000 marks (\$85,500). But a higher district court ordered him back to jail Monday after the Dusseldorf public prosecutor appealed against the decision, the spokesman said.

U.N. to rule on UNIFIL issue today

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 18 (AFP) — The United Nations Security Council may grant a Lebanese request for a six-month extension of the term of the United Nations Interim Forces in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which expires at midnight Wednesday, sources close to the council said.

The Security Council should rule on the question Wednesday at the latest, after having finalized a draft resolution in consultations among its 15 members Tuesday.

Observers have given the impression from

PLO gearing up for PNC session

DA MASCUS, Jan. 18 (AFP) — Top-level Palestinian political and military groups have been meeting here to prepare the next session of the Palestinian National Council (PNC), which meets Feb. 14 in Algeria.

It will be the Palestinian parliament's first meeting since the evacuation of Palestinian commandos from Beirut and South Lebanon.

A well-informed Palestinian source said that PNC President Khalid El Fahum has

diplomatic consultations in recent days that some council members, who had originally envisioned a shorter UNIFIL extension, now see six months as more advantageous.

Diplomats here see a six-month extension would be conservative step that would contribute to stability in southern Lebanon.

They see it too as a measure that would permit use of UNIFIL forces for supplementary jobs such as surveillance of the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon in the event an accord is struck on that question in Israeli-Lebanese-American negotiations.

According to another report, two-thirds of the doctors in the Afghan Army have fled the country since the Communist regime came to power.

The former head of the Kabul Military Medical School, Gen. Naik Muhammad Azizi, 55, said in Peshawar Tuesday that the Afghan Army today numbered fewer than 15,000 troops and about 100 doctors, many of whom had graduated after only four instead of seven years of study.

He said the Afghan Army had lost 30,000 men, or one-third of its 1978 strength, and there were 5,000 soldiers' graves in Kabul's military cemetery.

been named to head a committee to prepare the PNC meeting. The meeting will adopt decisions affecting the Palestinian dialogue with King Hussein of Jordan and current initiatives for Middle East peace such as the Arab peace plan adopted in Fez.

The Palestinian Wafa news agency reported that Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat presided over a meeting of the military chiefs.

Now civilians urged to guard Afghan firms

MOSCOW, Jan. 18 (AP) — Afghan workers are being ordered to form civilian guard units to defend factories and farms against attacks from Mujahedeen, the Soviet news agency Tass said Monday.

The apparently increased role for Afghan civilians in the war against opponents of the Soviet-backed Kabul regime followed indications of morale problems among the estimated 100,000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan.

In a report from Kabul, Tass said special civilian defense units "are being set up in these days across revolutionary Afghanistan."

The units are designed to "defend honorably their common property from attacks by reactionaries," the agency said, quoting an Afghan Communist official, Muhammad Esmail Danesh.

Tass did not specify the manpower of the new units but cited the example of a textile factory in Baghrami, where 360 blue- and white-collar workers were guarding the plant after working hours. The report said the units have been issued weapons to fight Mujahedeen.

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He said the Afghan Army had lost 30,000 men, or one-third of its 1978 strength, and there were 5,000 soldiers' graves in Kabul's military cemetery.

Sectarian duels flare up in Lebanon

BEIRUT, Jan. 18 (AP) — Christian and Druze militiamen clashed each other with artillery and rockets Tuesday in a new round of sectarian fighting on the hills overlooking U.S. Marine positions south of Beirut, police reported.

They said night-long duels flared into midmorning in the areas of Shweifat and Basata, eight and nine kilometers south of the capital. No casualty report was available.

Associated Press correspondent Terry A. Anderson, watching the duels from Beirut's international airport, said shells and rockets flew two to three kilometers southeast of marine positions.

No stray shells or shrapnel landed anywhere near the 1,200 American Marines stationed at the airport as part of the multinational peacekeeping force, Anderson said.

Christians and Druzes also clashed in gunbattles farther up in Lebanon's central mountain towns of Aley and Bhamdou, and Israel's state radio said Israeli forces there were put on alert.

Israeli checkpoints were set up on the Beirut-Damascus Highway and on other roads in the central mountains to reroute traffic in embattled areas. Lebanon's state radio reported.

Israeli forces have been unable to enforce a durable ceasefire in the central mountains.

BRIEFS

KARACHI, (AFP) — A crew member of a merchant vessel belonging to the state-owned Pakistani National Shipping Company has been sentenced by a summary military court to one year's rigorous imprisonment, fifteen lashes and half a million rupees (\$40,000) fine for his involvement in smuggling of heroin.

TEL AVIV, (R) — An Israeli soldier was injured when a water tanker he was driving ran over a land mine at a police checkpoint northeast of Tel Aviv Tuesday, police said.

DHAKA, (AFP) — Former Bangladesh Deputy Prime Minister Moudud Ahmad was acquitted of corruption charges in one case by a special martial law tribunal.

ATHENS, (AP) — A 30-year-old Israeli was jailed for 20 years Monday for attempting to smuggle heroin out of Greece in a pair of specially made boots.

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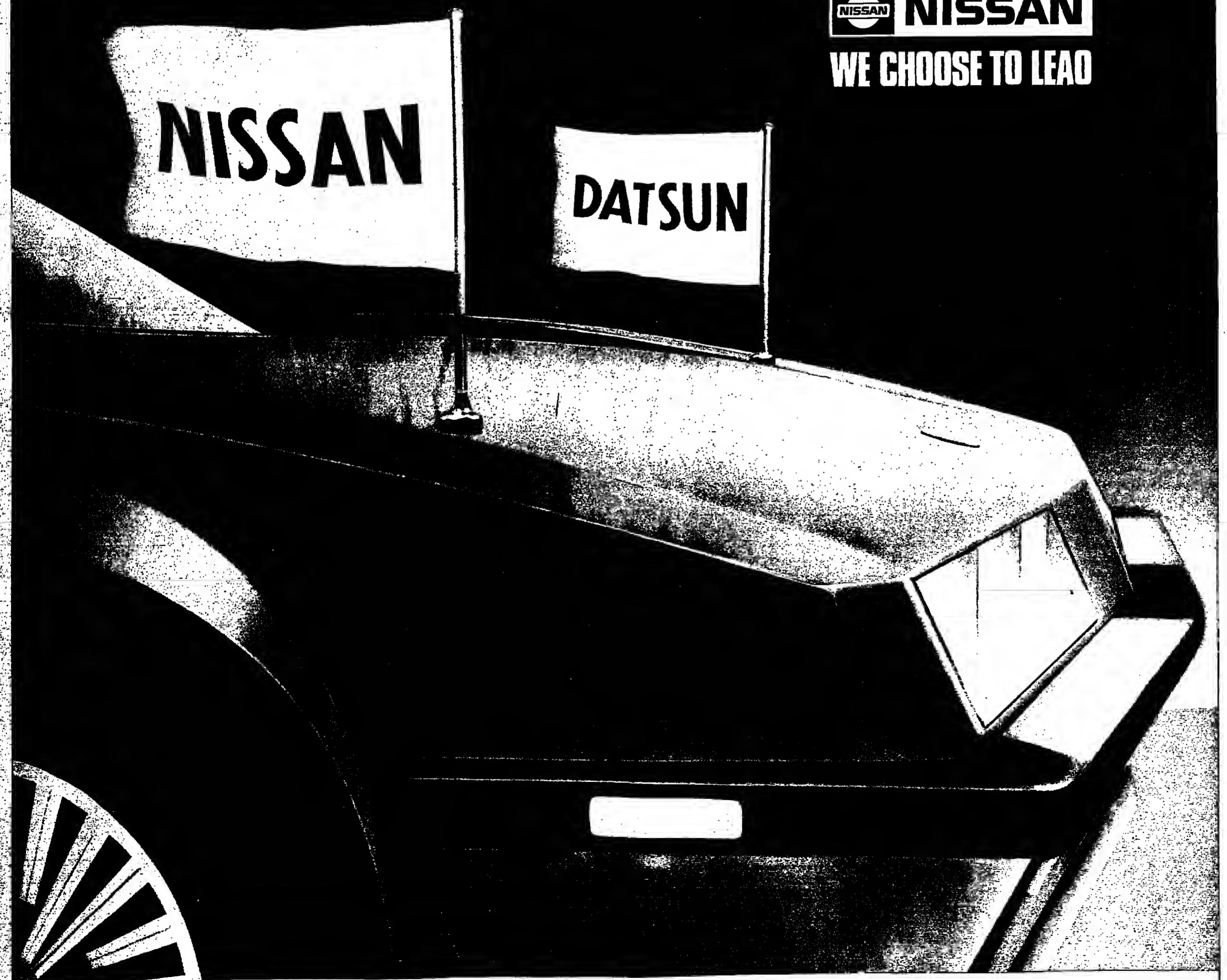
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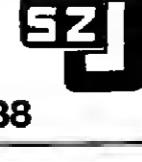
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Cuellar convinced U.S. wants talks with Soviets

UNITED NATIONS, Jan. 18 (AP) — Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said Monday he is convinced that the administration of U.S. President Ronald Reagan is "sincere" about wanting to negotiate with the Soviet Union on arms reductions.

The secretary-general said that, after his meeting in Washington last Friday with President Reagan and other administration officials, he saw some encouraging signs that both the Americans and Soviets favor reaching accommodation. "The atmosphere is improving," he said in an informal chat with reporters after taping a U.N.-TV question-and-answer program "World Chronicle."

He said he might be making a return visit to the Soviet Union, having last been there for the funeral of President Leonid Brezhnev in November. At the time, he met briefly with the new Soviet Communist Party chief Yuri V. Andropov but had no substantive discussion. The secretary-general said he did not take very seriously a report that a Pentagon "blueprint" for rearming the United States speaks of the need for preparing to wage an

Pledges mercy, justice

Wallace takes oath for fourth term

MONTGOMERY, Alabama, Jan. 18 (AP) — Gov. George C. Wallace, who was elected to a fourth term by appealing to black voters, pledged "mercy and justice" Monday after taking the oath of office on the spot where 20 years ago he promised "segregation forever."

"A nation that forgets its poor will lose its soul," Wallace said on the capital steps in an inaugural address that made no direct reference to his 1963 segregationist stand. He pledged to run "a government guided by a humble man's sense of duty and mercy and justice."

The 63-year-old governor, confined to a wheelchair for more than a decade because of a 1972 assassination attempt, long ago abandoned

BRIEFS

LONDON, (AFP) — Commonwealth heads of government are to meet in New Delhi from Nov. 22 to 30, 1983, Commonwealth Secretary General Shridath Ramphal announced Tuesday.

COLOMBO, (AFP) — Sri Lankan customs are expected to step up patrols and deep-sea reconnaissance after a warning from the international police organization, Interpol, of massive offshore narcotics running operations.

UNITED NATIONS, (AFP) — Argentina complained to the United Nations Monday that the British prime minister's recent visit to the disputed Falkland Islands "considerably aggravated" the situation.

NEW YORK, (AP) — Ron Reagan, the son of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, has

Delhi festival unable to find top award film

NEW DELHI, Jan. 18 (AP) — The ninth international film festival of India concluded Monday with the nine-member jury headed by British filmmaker Lindsay Anderson deciding no film deserved the Golden Peacock Award for best movie.

Aleksandr Polikov of the Soviet Union was awarded the Silver Peacock prize for directing *Open Heart*. The movie's heroine, Marina Starik, won the best actress award.

Indian film critics had earlier bemoaned the dearth of good movies at the 14-day festival, which is held in the Indian capital every two years. Two films were added at the last moment to the competition section after earlier having been judged of insufficient quality. That still left only 22 movies competing for the Golden Peacock.

The jury praised the Soviet film for its "firm but subtle handling of a delicate and complex human situation and its uniformly high-level of performance."

Egyptian actor Nour El-Sherif was named the best actor for his role in *Bus Driver*, directed by Atef El Tayeb. The Indian film *Chokh* (the eye), directed by Upalendu Chakravarty, won the jury's special prize for "the uncompromising sincerity with which it depicts the struggle for justice against social oppression and corruption."

Two movies, Canada's *Grey Fox* and *Avalanche* of Bulgaria, were commanded by the jury. Milan Milin of Czechoslovakia was nominated the best director of a short film. He directed *The Labyrinth of the World*. The jury's special prize for a documentary movie was awarded jointly to two Indian films, *Gift of Love* and *Faces After the Storm*.

Ex-Rhodesia army commander detained

HARARE, Jan. 18 (AP) — The former commander of the Rhodesian Army, John Hickman, has been detained by the government, his lawyers confirmed Tuesday. Hickman, 52, is being held under the emergency powers regulations.

Detained with him is a Harare businessman, Peter MacDonald. The lawyers, who requested anonymity for ethical reasons, said both men were detained Saturday. Hickman retired from the Rhodesian Army March 1979 as a major general after heading the force from 1975. He directed the white-led army in the war against black nationalist guerrillas who came to power in April, 1980. Hickman is now in private business.

Security sources told the Associated Press Hickman was being held for making subversive remarks against the government of Prime Minister Robert Mugabe — head of the biggest guerrilla army in the seven-year independence war.

Against nuclear missiles

Women shout slogans in House of Commons

LONDON, Jan. 18 (AP) — Fourteen women shocked Britain's House of Commons Monday by shouting slogans against nuclear Euromissiles.

The rare demonstration in the house erupted as parliament opened its 1983 session in an electoral fever despite Prime Minister Thatcher's refusal to say when she will call a general election. Police hustled the noisy women pacifists out of the public gallery and detained them until the sitting ended late in the night. But several labor MPs spoke in support of the demonstrators.

Another group of about 60 women pacifists held a sit-in demonstration in an outer hall of parliament where MPs may meet the public. Both groups were protesting plans by the Atlantic Alliance to deploy missiles in Western Europe late this year able to reach the Soviet Union if Washington and Moscow fail to reach an arms reduction agreement in Geneva.

Labor Party leader Michael Foot attacked Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher as though

Allen writes on 'turf' battles

Haig's meddling angered colleagues

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (AP) — Richard Allen, former National Security Adviser, says Alexander M. Haig Jr. disrupted U.S. government operations with an "insatiable appetite" for regulating foreign policy and making "end-runs" around other key advisers.

The self-proclaimed "vicar" took so broad a view of his powers, Allen says, that in his view "virtually every policy matter extending beyond the three-mile territorial limit would automatically come under the aegis of the Secretary of State."

Haig's proposed "compact" for regulating all foreign activity was rejected the day President Ronald Reagan was inaugurated.

Verdict in a week

Moro murder trial goes to jury

ROME, Jan. 18 (AP) — The trial of the Red Brigades accused of the 1978 killing of former Premier Aldo Moro went to the jury Monday after nine months of testimony.

The defendants, held in large cages in the courtroom, clapped and cheered and shouted "Red, Red, Red Brigades" after their comrades read statements to the court. Under Italian law, defendants are permitted to speak on their own behalf at the close of a trial. The jury of 12 men and women was expected to take a week to return verdicts against the 63 men and women standing trial. Twenty-three are charged with kidnapping

and murdering Moro, abducted in Rome on March 16, 1978, and killing his five bodyguards. Moro was found dead 55 days later.

The rest are charged with committing 17 murders, 22 attempted murders, and four kidnappings between 1976 and March 1980.

State Prosecutor Niccola Amato has asked for sentences ranging from one year and 10 months for those accused of minor crimes to life for 15 defendants accused of organizing the Moro kidnapping.

At the end of the trial Monday, some of the defendants shook their fists and others climbed up the bars of the cages.

U.S. increases patrol to stop Mexican influx

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (AP) — Immigration Commissioner Alan C. Nelson Monday assigned 60 extra border patrol agents and six new night vision devices to California to combat what he called the recent all-time high flood of illegal aliens across the border from Mexico.

Nelson told a news conference that during the last three months of 1982, border patrol arrests of illegal aliens were up 20 percent and had reached a record high. In the first 16 days of January, he said, border captures were more than 50 percent above the same period last year.

The 60 additional agents will be assigned to the Chula Vista, California, border patrol sector between Snalbago and Tijuana, Mexico, which normally accounts for one-third of all border patrol arrests along the 2,837 km U.S.-American border. The border patrol normally keeps 470 agents in that area.

He also announced that the new agents would use six newly-acquired infrared scopes. Mounted on pickup trucks, the new devices detect the heat generated by a human body and are capable of spotting a person in rain, fog and darkness at a distance up to three miles. The devices cost \$60,000 each, and Nelson said they were significantly more mobile than any previously used by the border patrol. Nelson said that if the current trend continues throughout the year, the border patrol would apprehend about 1 million illegal aliens for the first time since 1954 and only the second time in history.

Zimbabwe attacks claim five lives

HARARE, Jan. 18 (AP) — Five persons were killed Monday in four separate attacks in Matabeleland province in western Zimbabwe, a government spokesman said.

The spokesman said the government was "concerned at the wanton acts of murder of innocent civilians" in the province's tribal stronghold of opposition leader Joshua Nkomo. Lawlessness, blamed by the government on ex-guerrillas loyal to Nkomo, has escalated since he was fired from the coalition government last February for allegedly plotting a coup against Prime Minister Robert Mugabe. Hundreds of civilians have been killed, maimed and robbed since then.

The latest slayings occurred in communal lands inhabited by peasants in south-west Matabeleland. The spokesman outlined the following incidents: Four dissident bayonetted to death a store owner on grounds he was a government supporter; one gunman fired shots at a bus, killing a woman; six dissidents stabbed to death two government carpenters who were building a school; and a gang of three abducted and bayoneted to death a village they accused of supporting the government.



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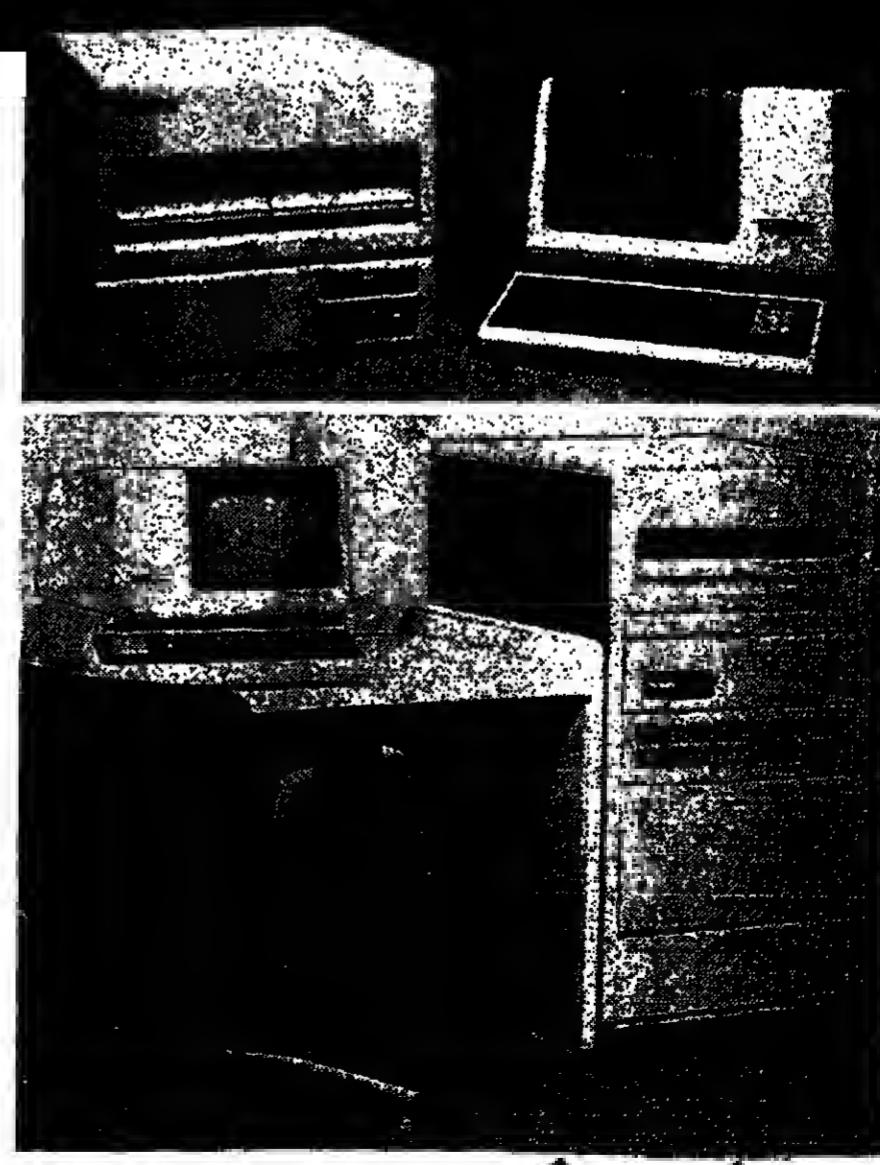
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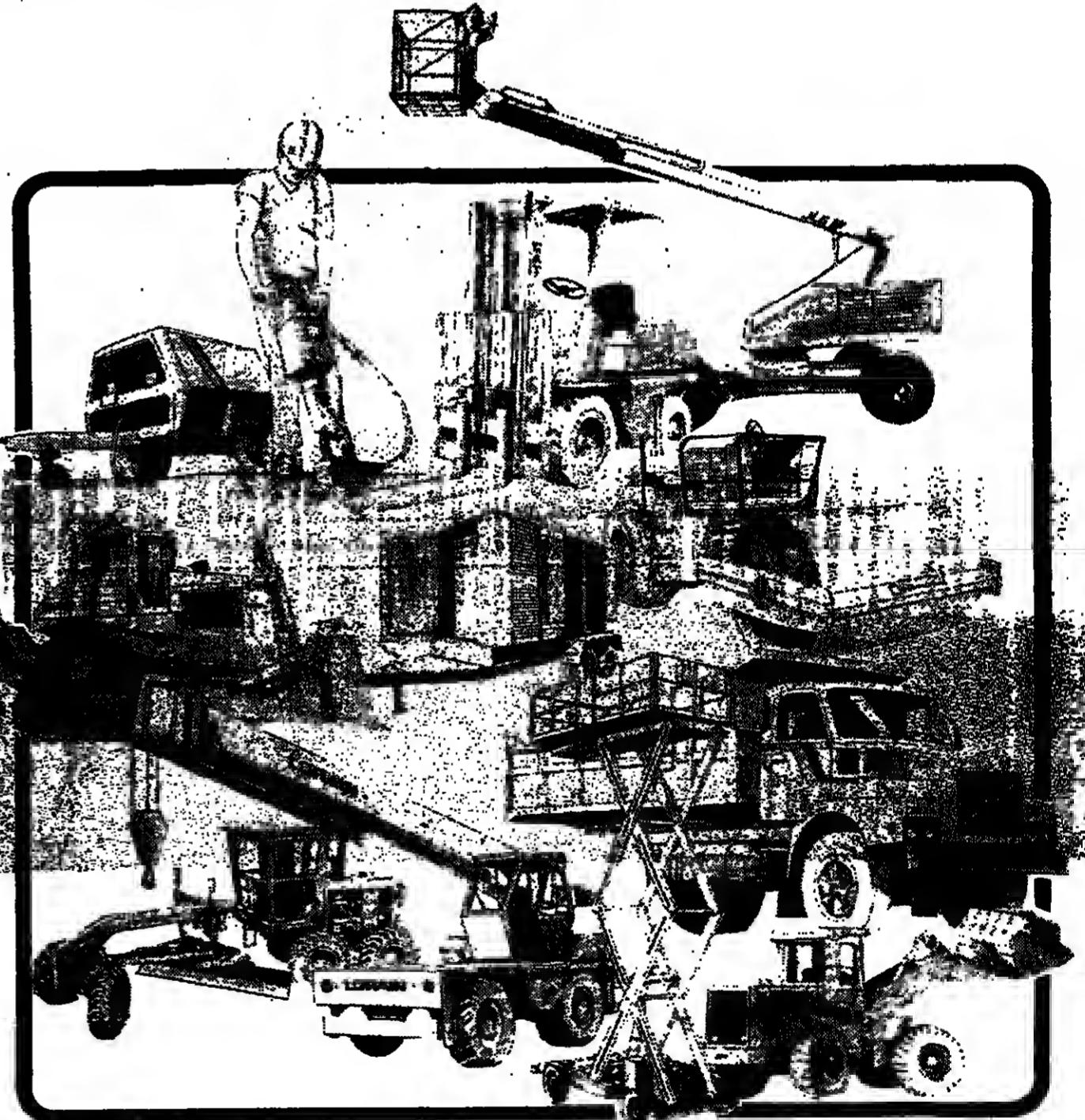
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arab news

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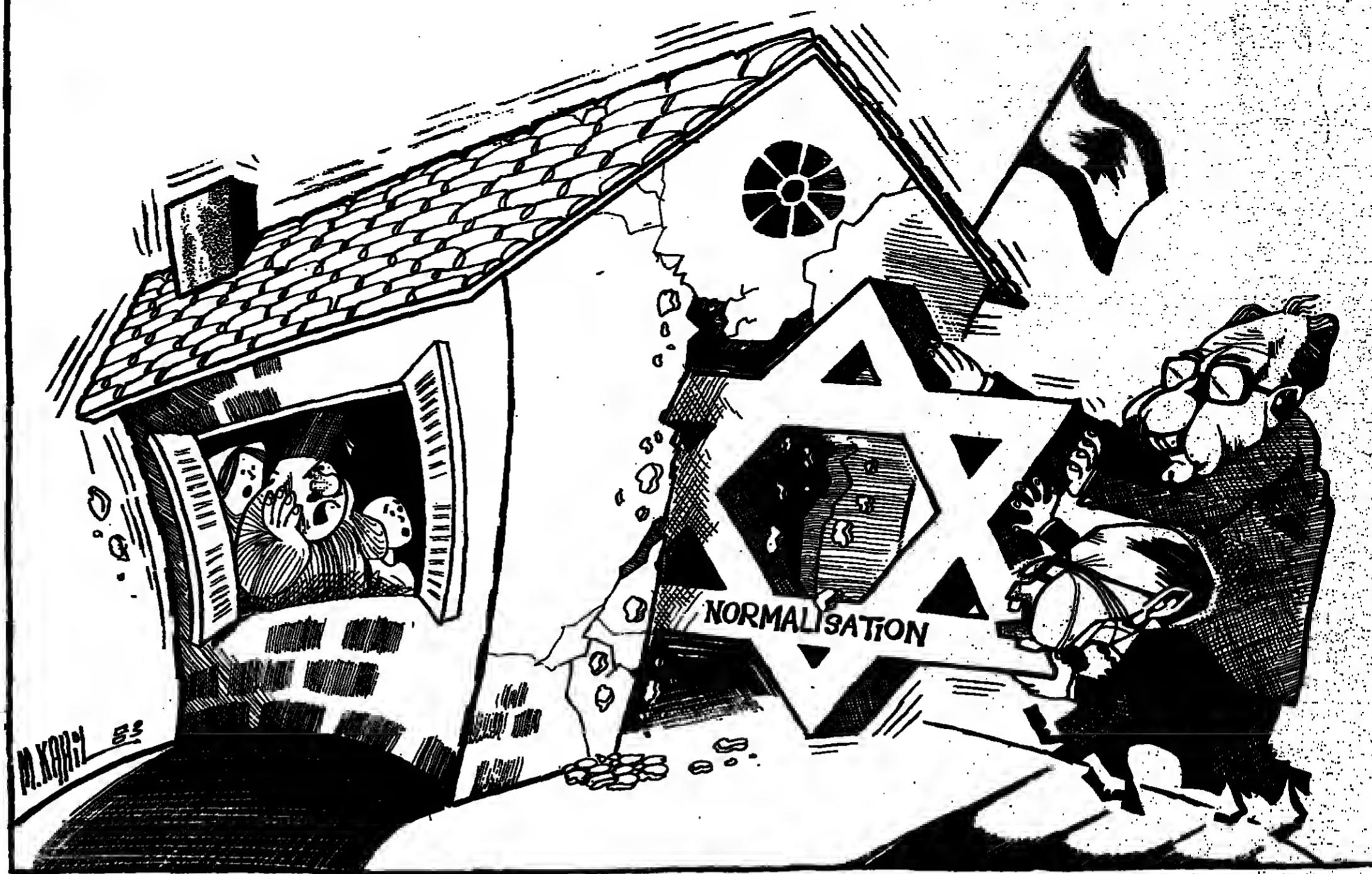
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Rostow's ouster a victory for American moderates

By Robert Cheshire

WASHINGTON —

A Machiavellian in-fight for the heart, mind and attention of the president of the United States, the outcome of which may determine the thrust of East-West relations for the next decade, surfaced this week with the dismissal of Eugene Rostow as America's arms control chief.

At stake is whether the U.S. baffled and outboxed for the past two months by the fast-moving, ring-wise Yuri Andropov, can show enough flexibility for a compromise to be snatched with the Soviet Union on the mutual reduction of European-based nuclear missiles, on which rides much else, including probably the unity of the Western Alliance.

Rostow, an intellectual hawk ideologically acceptable to Reaganites but cussed, independent and on the verge of '70, was an incidental victim, chopped because he remained loyal to a doomed subordinate and because he failed to suppress mounting confusion within the arms control bureaucracy. His removal clears the way for arms control moderates to move in for a partial, but crucial, victory. Just as

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anyone can both find a middle way and focus Ronald Reagan's attention long enough to get presidential action, it is Shultz, whose lack of machismo is more than compensated for by his quiet competence. Reagan finds much comfort in 'leaving it to George', who extricated United States from the Soviet pipelines imbroglio.

Shultz took over the daily State Department briefing the morning after the Rostow sacking, coaxing confidence in present policies and emphasizing their virtues, a maneuver that kidded no one. Before this week's shuffle, the fear of those in Washington who wish for some firm of arms pact was that Shultz, about to go to China and pre-

dicted the diehard anti-Soviets seemed to have the game sewn up.

Rostow's successor, Kenneth Adelman, aged 36 — whose appointment must make the Kremlin greybeards shake their heads in wonder — wears his heart on the right side (he has been U.N. Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick's deputy without giving that lady ideological offence), but the general direction of arms control policy has been entrusted to that consummate purver of oil on troubled waters, George Shultz.

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dicted the Middle East and the world debt crisis, might remain shut out of the most crucial area of American foreign policy, particularly since he lacks a track record in the policies of East-West confrontation.

There is a dearth of Soviet specialists at the top in this administration, and Shultz's most knowledgeable arms control lieutenant, Rick Burt, a high flyer in his mid-30s, has been politically emasculated by conservative senators, led by Jesse Helms of North Carolina, who have blocked his confirmation as assistant secretary for European affairs for nearly a year.

With Shultz so far inattentive and underbriefed on arms control, and no one in the White House with the weight or knowledge seriously to get in on the action, the pace was being set by senior Pentagon officials, such as Richard Perle. Their efforts (thus far unsuccessful) have been to keep Reagan away from serious exposure to the issues in the confidence that his gut anti-communism will always incline him to dismiss Soviet overtures as propaganda and in the expectation of his full-hearted support for any multi-billion dollar project the Pentagon declares essential for American security.

Thus Reagan might have measured out the declining months of his regime bolstered by anti-Soviet counsellors, had he not been ambushed by events, the first of which — the nuclear 'freeze' movement — forced him to start talking with the Russians, the second — the recession — to question whether the United States could afford everything the generals had set their hearts on, and the third — Andropov's accession — demonstrating that diplomacy was alive in the Kremlin.

Reagan may denounce freezers as Moscow dupes, but as a populist politician he recognizes a grass-roots movement when he sees one, and the freeze movement drove him last summer to initiate the Geneva strategic arms talks.

And then came Andropov. He defied the accepted wisdom that it takes a new Soviet leader five years to solidify his position, and handed out olive branches with enthusiasm. Diplomatic trench warfare was shredded by Andropov's Panzer divisions. Flexibility and pragmatism, concepts largely alien to Reagan, were the order of the day, and Washington moderates, who saw in Andropov's hectic burst of activity a 'window of opportunity', breathed again. They have been further encouraged by European opinion. With a March election due in West Germany, in which — read from Washington — the peace issue could tip the balance against the conservative Helmut Kohl, Reagan's men took note. A week ago the president scrapped a planned broadcast to the Soviet Union, and announced instead that he is to send Vice-President George Bush to Europe to encourage faint hearts.

One analyst believes that if Bush returns with the message that Europeans want a deal (providing it is not a sell-out), and that the German election may depend on how flexible the United States appears to be, and if Bush then joins forces with Shultz (by then better informed and more deeply involved), the balance within the administration will tilt away from the hardliners.

But Reagan's time is slipping away. If he doesn't succeed in getting a deal, he may be enough of a negotiator that a major arms control deal requires. Few Washington specialists doubt that the Soviets will themselves plan fresh missiles and further redeployments unless the race is stopped now. (ONS)

French local elections crucial for Mitterrand

By Charles Bremer

PARIS

France's opposition leaders have embarked on intense campaigns for local elections that they say will show a majority of Frenchmen already had enough of Socialists.

Over the past week, Paris Mayor Jacques Chirac, leader of the Gaullist opposition, and former President Valery Giscard d'E斯塔ing, who heads the centrist UDF grouping, have thrown their weight into the battle for France's 34,414 town halls with all the energy of a general election.

The national stakes in the March 6 vote are low because the country is not due to face a parliamentary poll until 1986 but, as the only major vote until then, its outcome will shape the French political landscape for years. The next presidential election is scheduled for 1988. For the two main opposition groupings, ousted from 23 years of power by the Socialists in 1981, the election presents the country with a chance to reject the policies of President Francois Mitterrand and his administration.

Opinion polls and party experts are predicting heavy losses for the left wing compared with the results of the last municipal elections in 1977, mainly as a demonstration of discontent over the government's economic record. After a year of Socialist-inspired expansionary policies, the government embarked last June on a strategy of austere

ity, calling for national effort and sacrifice to curb inflation.

The economy is the central target for Giscard d'E斯塔ing and Chirac, as well as for former Prime Minister Raymond Barre. According to all three, the Mitterrand administration has demonstrated incompetence, and disrupted economy.

According to some, the government had managed to 'cast doubt on the credibility of its economic policy with magnificent lack of concern.'

Le Matin said the government had thrown away an opportunity to 'lay up contradictions in the campaign speeches of Giscard d'E斯塔ing and former Premier Barre.' It chose to demonstrate once again a lack of cohesion which has already done great disservice in the eyes of public opinion. Le Matin said.

Mauroy has already run into trouble over conflicting statements from his ministers and decisions to reverse policy over the economy and a plan to reform Paris city government.

While the UDF and the Gaullist RPR have maintained a fairly united front for the municipal elections, the Socialists and Communist alliance has come under strain. They agreed to run joint lists of candidates after three months of wrangling over whose candidates should head the ticket in a series of key cities, a task made more complicated by a new system of proportional representation.

Political commentators say the election results could prove decisive for the future of the alliance, forged when President Mitterrand brought the Communists into government. Partial regional elections last year, opinion polls and a national trade union vote have all pointed to a continuing decline in public support for the Communists and their leader Georges Marchais, heavily defeated in the 1981 elections.

The electoral weakness of the once-powerful party has led it to go along with foreign and domestic initiatives that conflict with its orthodox Marxist and pro-Moscow stance. But the press has reported growing unrest from party militants who feel the link with the government is 'ultimately suicidal.'

Mitterrand is reported to be contemplating a break with the Communists that would free him to consolidate a shift by his administration toward the center of politics highlighted since September by the accent on measures to boost a business revival. Newspapers have been speculating on plans Mitterrand is said to have made for a more centrist government that would include figures from outside the Socialist Party.

The risk for the president would come from exposing his administration to attack on its left from the Communists and their powerful trade union allies.

Today is Wednesday, Jan. 19, the 19th day of 1983. There are 346 days left in the year. Highlights in history on this date:

1649 — Trial of Charles I of England begins.

1871 — French forces are defeated by Germans at St. Quentin, France.

1899 — Britain and Egypt meet regarding Sudan.

1915 — German airships bomb ports in eastern England in World War I.

1916 — Russian offensive in Galicia, Poland begins.

1923 — Germany declares policy of passive resistance as economy comes to standstill.

1942 — Japanese troops invade Burma.

1949 — Anti-Soviet demonstrations begin in Czechoslovakia after student sets himself afire in Prague to protest Russian domination in that country.

1975 — Britain and Irish Republican Army announce first direct negotiations since start of guerrilla activity in Northern Ireland five years earlier.

1977 — Egyptian President Anwar Sadat cancels consumer price increase after two days of widespread protest and rioting.

1982 — U.S. President Ronald Reagan says conditions in Poland have worsened since the imposition of martial law, and that further U.S. sanctions are being considered against the military regime in Warsaw and the Soviet Union.

Thought for today:

'Don't marry for money; you can borrow it cheaper.' — Scottish proverb.

Letters to the editor

British fear of truth

Sir,

When the British government refused to recognize the right of the Palestine Liberation Organization delegate, the Arabs and their friends should not be astounded. There is no need to feel humiliated by a British rebuff. When you offer them economic relations, they welcome you with many handshakes and smiles. But when you wish to express to them the basis of human rights and the right of a people to be heard, they do not want to know.

As a son of my father and forefathers who have suffered under British imperialist rule in Ireland, it came as no surprise when the British refused to listen to the voice of true Palestine. There is nothing the British fear more than truth. And they know the truth about Palestine and are too ashamed to meet it face to face. This is just good old British tradition of not listening the truth.

Another glaring example is that on Dec. 7, 1982, the British Parliament banned two Irish nationalists who have been democratically elected by the voters in the British-occupied Northern Ireland to speak in that nation's capital. Here again, they were ignoring the truth and they tell the world that Northern Ireland is British but its elected representatives are

banned from entering Britain to put forward their case.

So the Arabs should not be worried about Britain's negative attitude as you must surely know. "there is more than one way to skin a cat."

L.O. Cianin
P.O. Box 4102,
Dammam

Thatcher's folly

Sir,

I wish to comment on the row between Saudi Arabia and Britain on the refusal of the Thatcher government to receive an Arab League delegation consisting of a Palestinian representative. I want to impress upon your readers not to think that the British people have no sympathy with the just cause of the Palestinians. Many people, including myself, in Britain today are fully aware of the expansionist aims of the Israeli regime and are totally opposed to it. Further, I would like your readers to understand that Mrs. Thatcher is still living on the 'glories' of the Falklands War.

Though I am sorry to see our countries having strained relations, I am sure the letter in The Times from Prince Bandar Abdullah will bring Mrs. Thatcher down to earth and make her realize that

the path to peace lies upon the road of truth and her head in the sand attitude condemns her and her government in the eyes of the world.

Peter Taylor,
British worker,
P.O. Box 357,
Dammam

Battle of Panipat

It is a tyranny of the historians that they relate the gun, Zamzama, to a paradoxical child, who played under it, and not the engineer who made it or the king who used it.

Here, I wish to draw your attention to the fact that the Third Battle of Panipat was fought between Ahmad Shah Durrani and Baji Rao, the Maratha ruler, and not between Ahmad Shah and the Moghuls as mentioned in the article "The Zamzama of Rudyard Kipling's Kim" published in Arab News dated Jan. 6, 1983.

This was the battle which the Muslims had to win or they would have been wiped out of the Indian subcontinent. And it was a complete victory for

6 years after the episode

U.S. kidnap victims still fearing darkness

By Jerry Cohen

CHOWCHILLA, California (LAT) — Rodney Park, a stout, rumpled man of early middle age with thinning hair and a bushy beard, clearly was uneasy as he sat in an armchair in his remote ranch home. He was talking about his children, their grotesque experience more than six years ago and the hurtful aftermath.

"It is a subject with which he is not comfortable."

The Park children, Andrea, now 14, and Larry, almost 13, were among the 26 Chowchilla schoolchildren kidnapped in July 1976, along with their bus driver and entombed for 16 hours before escaping.

The father's voice was soft and the words, for the most part, were scrupulously matter-of-fact. But he appeared to be straining to remain detached from the episode's wounding personal consequences.

"It's been a week, one week now, since Larry has not had a light on in his bedroom. He slept with a light on since that time until this. It was just a week ago today he turned the light off himself in his bedroom."

"He had nightmares for over four years, on the average of two a week. He would wake up in the middle of the night telling me they (his kidnappers) were coming in the window after him. And they were going to get him. I would have to sleep with him to keep him calm. He would be just absolutely hysterical."

"As for Andrea, if anybody came to the house and knocked on the door, she wouldn't

answer the door. She always kept herself locked inside. She always kept the house completely dark. She would live in the back room. There was a den in that house, clear in the back."

"Andrea just withdrew inside of herself. She won't even talk about it (the kidnapping) today."

"She has developed a very bad ulcer. She's on medication for it. The school psychologist up here says that it goes directly back to the kidnapping. Because she's so withdrawn into herself."

Just about then, Andrea, solemn and silent but blue-eyed and pretty, arrived home from school, followed shortly by Larry, a slender, lively eyed towhead.

As they did, their father asked with undisguised wariness: "How did you find out where we live? We try to keep our whereabouts a secret. We are really concerned as to how you found us."

Just before 4 p.m. on July 16, 1976, the 26 children and school bus driver Ed Ray, then 56, were intercepted along the route that Ray had driven for 23 years. Three armed, masked men commanded the bus, then abandoned it in a nearby drainage ditch and ordered Ray and the children into two waiting vans, one white, one green.

The vans carried the captives to a quarry near Livermore, 100 miles to the north. The three gunmen hustled the children and their driver into an opening that led to a hurried truck-trailer. They covered the entry with plywood that they weighted with an iron plate, two heavy batteries and dirt.

After hours of clawing and scraping, Ray and two of the older boys, Mike Marshall, then 14, and Robert Gonzales, then 11, eased the plywood trap aside and gradually widened the opening, allowing them and the others to escape.

Within days, three young men of prosperous families were arrested. Fred Woods, then 24, James Schoenfeld, also 24, and his brother, Richard Schoenfeld, 22, were convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment. In the case of the older two, the sentences carried the stipulation that they never could be paroled. However, in the last few years, frequent legal maneuvers have been directed at obtaining paroles for all three.

The likelihood that any one or all three ever will be free again is today an almost constant source of unease to almost every one of the young victims and their families.

At the time of the kidnapping, the children ranged in age from 5 to 14. Today, a few are young adults. Mike Marshall, a hero of the escape, is 20 and a rodeo performer. Four girls are married. One has a baby. About half have moved away. Some are still in school in Chowchilla. Some are adamant in their refusal to talk today about what occurred to them.

Those who did talk indicate that most have emerged as normally adjusted human beings. Almost to an individual, each experienced some trauma. Bad dreams. Subsequent fright. Withdrawal. It is almost as if the children and their families came way from the July 1976, ordeal in three layers:

— Those who mended and forgot quite quickly. This seems particularly true of the younger children, if not their parents.

— Those who remained in the grip of fear for a year or so before losing their emotional disturbance.

— Those, like the Park children and their parents, who remain troubled and fearful.

What follows is the personal assessment of some of the victims and some of their parents of their present state of their being:

Sherly Hinesley was 7. Now almost 14, she attends a parochial school in Madera, 15 miles from Chowchilla. Her family has written parole board officials protesting the possibility of parole for Woods or the Schoenfeld brothers. What would he tell board members? "Stay at the house at night and listen to her (Sherly) screaming," said Hinesley, her father.

Jody Matheny was 11 at the time of the crime. Today he is a 17-year-old high school junior, a brown-haired youth of medium build. He is a drummer in the Chowchilla high school band. After his graduation next year, he wants to attend California State University, Long Beach.

He said that immediately after the kidnapping he "was always afraid of things. Like walking down the street or something. It was just walking home and walking out at night." He worried that his captors might "try it all over again."

"But not anymore," he said. Now he thinks back "only when someone mentions it."

Lisa Ardery, 16 and her sister Monica is 12. In the summer of 1976, they were 4 and 5. "I have dreams sometimes. The whole thing over and over again," said Lisa. She gestured as if she were re-running a movie.

Is she frightened when that happens?

"Sometimes after my dreams I am. Because it's dark in the bedroom and everything. It's dark in there."

British bomb tests leave Australia in a quandary

By Lindsay Murdoch

MELBOURNE (LOS) — The Australian government, facing legal challenges for millions of dollars for victims of atomic tests in the 1950s, is being pressed to ask Britain for compensation.

The Australian Nuclear Veterans' Association says the government faces hundreds of claims similar to that of a Melbourne widow, Peggy Jones, who has a common law suit against the government.

Mrs. Jones' soldier husband died from leukemia in 1966. He had handled an atomic tank at the South Australian site of Maralinga, where six bombs were exploded in 12 months from October 1956. Solicitors acting for Mrs. Jones, a mother of five, are seeking a \$250,000 out-of-court settlement.

The Jones case is regarded as a legal test for

Monica said she never consciously thinks back on the kidnapping but she said she, too, occasionally dreams about it and when she does, she wakes Lisa and they talk about it. Lisa said she does the same with Monica.

Laura Yazzic was 5 during the kidnapping, one of the two youngest victims. She is now 12. Laura dreams of the strange episode. She dreamed frequently when it first happened but less often now, her mother said.

Laura, chubby and effervescent and the daughter of full-blooded Indians, interrupted her mother with a titter. "I had a dream about a Dracula chasing me. And his little dog bit me. And I died."

A neighbor and close friend of the Yazzie family who was listening to the conversation chimed in: "She wouldn't sleep in her own bed for a long time. She used to come over to my house and sleep on the couch."

How long did that continue, ber not wanting to sleep in her own bed? The mother was asked.

It's still going on."

Irene and Rob Riemer were celebrating their "anniversary." A glowing Irene, who will be 19 this month, said, "we've been married exactly one month." Her youngest sister, Stella Carrejo, 12, was visiting the Riemers in their clean, tastefully furnished bungalow. Both sisters are astonishingly pretty, dark-haired and slight.

The girls are members of a large Chowchilla family, seven sisters and three brothers. Four of the Carrejo sisters were taken by the kidnappers. Both Irene and Stella insist they came away from the experience almost totally untroubled. Irene said, "I was fine. It didn't bother me at all. The only thing that bothers me and still does is I don't like to be alone. And I like to sleep with the light on." Irene is one of the few victims who said she would not be concerned if her abductors obtained freedom.

On the other side of Chowchilla, a dusty little San Joaquin Valley farm town of 4,000, Linda Carrejo, now 16 and a high school cheerleader and clarinetist, interrupted a book report she was preparing and invited a reporter into her mother's little house. Her mother was not at home but wouldn't talk even if she were, said Linda. "I take it as just an incident in my life," she said.

Her name is Darla Sue House, now she is 16 and she has an infant son. Like some others, darkness, the kind they experienced in the buried trailer-truck, disturbed Darla Sue after the abduction. And still does.

The young heroes of the children's escape were the two largest boys, Mike Marshall and Robert Gonzales, 14 and 11 at the time. Acting upon the directions of Ed Ray, with whom the kidnappers had left a flashlight, they kicked and punched for hours at the weighted plywood cover over their heads until it broke. That allowed Robert, the smaller of the two, to squeeze through a minute opening in the trap and, eventually, budge the heavy weights resting on it which, in turn, permitted the layer of dirt to collapse onto the bed of the truck-trailer. Mike and Robert then heaved the other children through the small opening as the bus driver handed them up to them.

Robert Gozales is 17 now and a high school junior. He is only 5 feet, 6 inches tall, but husky. His musculature is that of a mature man. "It seems just like a dream. You dream something and you forget it after a while," he said.

Robert said he was "just walking home and walking out at night."

He worried that his captors might "try it all over again."

"But not anymore," he said. Now he thinks back "only when someone mentions it."

Lisa Ardery was 16 and her sister Monica is 12. In the summer of 1976, they were 4 and 5. "I have dreams sometimes. The whole thing over and over again," said Lisa. She gestured as if she were re-running a movie.

Is she frightened when that happens?

"Sometimes after my dreams I am. Because it's dark in the bedroom and everything. It's dark in there."

Another Look

Disgruntled spouses

By Robert Yoakum

This is a good time of year, as holiday tensions build and psychiatrists receive more and more midnight calls, to look back at 1982 to see how men and women got along with one another.

If the evidence in my files is a reliable guide, the sexes are still far from the sort of harmony we all hope for. Those files show continuing evidence that many women feel exploited and that they are increasingly willing to go public with their grievances.



Perhaps the most egregious example ever to land in my files involved two women who collected \$250,000 each in malpractice suits against a New York City psychiatrist with the unlikely name of Dr. Lonnie F. Leonard. One of the plaintiffs said that she paid \$45 an hour for therapy sessions — and then was charged \$10 to view a videotape of each hour.

Disgruntled women even began to put their plight in print.

One wife in Troy, New York, took out a classified advertisement in the "Articles for Sale — Used" section:

"HUSBAND — 52 years old, cannot remember birthdays, anniversaries, never opens doors, lights my cigarettes, holds my hand. Will sell for two cents. Will dicker."

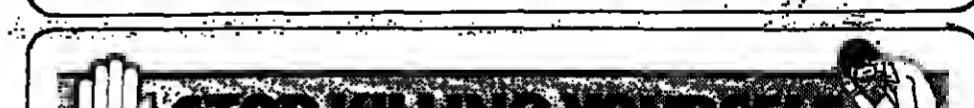
So many offers poured in that both the husband and wife finally had to take the telephone off the hook for nine hours. One of those offers came from a woman who wanted to swap her 91-year-old husband. She said she would include in the deal a wheelchair, cane, and hot water bottle. Another woman wanted a picture of the husband before she was willing to dicker.

At the other end of the spectrum are those few husbands who are so thoughtful as to make the rest of the male population look cheesy and inattentive. Imagine how many women looked at their spouses with lip-curving, nostril-flaring contempt, for example, when they read the following in *Time* magazine's recent cover story of Paul Newman:

"A few years ago, when he was filming in Hawaii, Paul handed his wife Joanne a box with a new evening gown in it. When she had changed, they were flown to a deserted golf course where they were served an elegant dinner alone beside the sea, serenaded by a string quartet."

Can you imagine how that item went over in Smithfield, Rhode Island?

But divorce statistics indicate that many women don't want their husbands back.



REST CAN BE OVERDONE

By Peter J. Steinrohr, M.D., F.A.C.P.

Dear Dr. Steinrohr: My teen-age son developed viral hepatitis. Our problem is in keeping him quiet. We've been told that hepatitis patients need to stay in bed for at least a month. Our doctor is very strict. Our boy is on the football team in high school and he's understandably restless. He weighs 200 and is 6'2". He claims that staying in bed "is a waste." My husband sides with him. My question is this: Is it necessary for hepatitis patients to stay in bed so long? — Mrs. O.

Dear Mrs. O.: Prolonged bed rest has been the accepted form of treatment for various diseases for many years. Heart attack patients were kept in bed for months. Tuberculosis patients were in bed for years. Postoperative patients rested for weeks. In many conditions, patients became actual bed-prisoners. They were kept there against their will.

During the past few decades, doctors have been less strict. Heart attack patients are out of bed as early as the first few days or week. TB patients don't require months or years of bed treatment. Even those who had major surgery are allowed out of bed within days after surgery.

I've been getting down to your own son's problems. Mrs. O. Viral hepatitis does require bed rest — but it, too, can be overdone. If lab tests indicate improvement, that the liver is healing nicely, patients may not require prolonged rest. If your son's doctor still insists that he remain in bed much longer, ask for consultation. He may get a welcome reprieve.

MEDICALETTES

(Replies to and from readers):

For Mrs. T.: All brain tumors are not cancerous. For example, the meningioma you mention is benign as a rule. Even so, its danger may depend on its location, as well as on its size.

Dear Dr. Steinrohr: I believe in a moderate amount of exercise, but I think that the brain needs exercise, too. Just watching TV like most of my family does is not conducive to much mental stimulation. Too many of us go through life mentally lazy and under-exercised. Years ago writer and lecturer, John Mason Brown said, "... the mind is the most unused muscle in the United States."

For Mrs. P.: Some women get nervous by inspecting themselves too often in the mirror. Perhaps your husband is right when he says a 55-year-old woman shouldn't be looking in the mirror as often as you do. I don't believe that a woman who passes 40 should lose all interest in her appearance. But looking at yourself so often may be the reason for your depression. As Simone de Beauvoir said, "A woman's mirror is her enemy after 50."

For Mrs. G.: Don't give up on aspirin too soon for your arthritis. You may not be taking sufficiently large doses. Two aspirin tablets a day is usually ineffective for painful arthritis. You may need as many as eight or more.

Alarmed by L. American debts

Banks switch lending to Western nations

BASLE, Jan. 18 (R) — International banks, alarmed by debt repayment problems of Latin American countries, switched much of their lending to safer Western industrialized countries late last summer, banking sources showed Tues.

The quarterly international banking report of the Bank for International Settlements (BIS) said outstanding credits to non-oil-exporting developing countries fell in the third quarter of 1982 for the first time since early 1977.

The figures illustrated the shock which hit the international banking system last August when Mexico ran into difficulties in meeting repayments on its foreign debt of over \$80 billion.

Loans out to non-oil-exporting Third World countries, which had expanded strongly by \$13 billion in the second quarter, fell by \$800 million in the period between July and September.

International lending to major Western industrialized nations meanwhile accelerated from \$9 billion to \$15 billion, as the banks sought more creditworthy borrowers. The BIS said the banks' perception of credit risk increased appreciably.

The abrupt halt to new lending to non-

oil-Third World countries represented a radical departure from the trend of the last decade. From the end of 1973 to mid-1982, these nations had accounted for about a quarter of the banks' international credit business.

The BIS, which provides banking services for central banks, said new lending to Latin America slumped to \$1.2 billion in the third quarter from \$7.7 billion in the preceding three months.

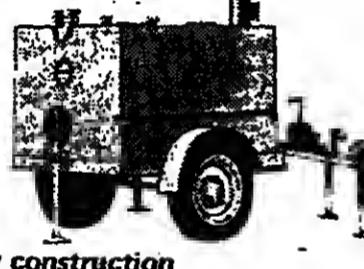
Funds out on loan to Mexico dropped by \$1.8 billion, after a \$6.4 billion increase in the second quarter, while credits outstanding to Argentina showed a smaller fall. Brazil was the exception in this area, receiving \$2.8 billion of new credits. Since then, that country too has run into severe debt repayment problems.

The banks reduced their debt exposure to Eastern Europe, where Poland, Romania and Hungary have all had trouble servicing their debt. In the first nine months of 1982 it was cut back by \$4.2 billion whereas in the same period of 1981 these countries were able to borrow \$4 billion of new funds.

New international credit business in the first nine months of the year slowed worldwide to \$75 billion from \$110 billion in the corresponding period of 1981.

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U.S. helps 3rd World to up food output

WASHINGTON, Jan. 18 (SP) — U.S. Secretary of Agriculture John R. Block has outlined U.S. efforts to help developing countries improve food production, in remarks before a meeting of the eighth ministerial meeting of the World Food Council in Acapulco, Mexico.

In addition to providing technical assistance to help developing countries attack their food problems effectively, Block pointed out that the United States has provided training for many foreign agricultural officials in America and in host countries. The United States has also trained other representatives of developing countries as "trainers" to teach their fellow citizens.

The scientific and technical exchange and cooperative research activities conducted by the United States with a number of developing countries are designed, Block said, to promote programs to benefit all participants.

Several U.S. task forces, proposed by President Reagan, have already visited Peru and Thailand at the invitation of these countries to help analyze food production and agricultural problems and make recommendations on how they can be resolved or reduced. Advance task force teams have also visited Honduras and Liberia, and visits to several other countries are being considered. The agricultural task forces will also examine the potential for investment by the private sector.

Shultz is expected to attempt to revive fal-

Oil price fall may hit Canada

DUBAI, Jan. 18 (AP) — Canada's minister of state for international trade was quoted here Monday as saying that his country would face "very serious problems" if the price of crude oil goes down.

"Canada has gone in for some very heavy investments in the development of high-cost energy resources," Regan said in an interview with the United Arab Emirates newspaper *Gulf News*.

He said that economic planning in Canada for the past three years has been based on the assumption that the price of oil will gradually be going up. "If the price of oil should go down, this will create some very serious problems for us," he said, noting that the development of Canadian core resources, already underway, was costing vast amounts in such difficult climatic areas as the Arctic.

Just before his departure to Dubai, the second biggest in the seven-emirate UAE federation, announced that a joint committee had been set up to study the scope for investments by local businessmen in Canada and take "follow-up action."

Regan said he hoped OPEC would be able

Rifts cast shadow on Shultz's visit to China

PEKING, Jan. 18 (AP) — The impasse in Chinese-American textile talks is expected to aggravate the troubled agenda of United States Secretary of State George P. Shultz when he visits China early next month.

American quotas for textiles and other Chinese products, defections of a prominent Chinese tennis star, U.S. refusal to sell more technology to Peking's Communist government and friendlier China-Soviet relations are also certain to be discussed during Shultz's visit Feb. 2-6.

Another simmering problem underlying basic China-U.S. relations is Chinese anger over Washington's continuing arms sales to Taiwan, seat of the rival Nationalist government, which Peking regards as a renegade province.

The latest addition to Chinese-U.S. troubles came last week when both sides failed to reach agreement in a fourth round of textile talks. China, a major exporter of textiles, accused the U.S. side of insincerity and blackmail.

The United States decreed unilateral import restrictions on Chinese textiles in the absence of new agreement to replace the one that expired Dec. 31. The restrictions pressure the current level of Chinese exports but do not permit increases. The Chinese side has vowed to retaliate in unspecified ways.

"China might try to pressure Shultz on the textile issue, but I don't think it will work," said Peter Murphy, the senior U.S. negotiator at the stalled talks. It is unclear when the talks will resume.

Shultz is expected to attempt to revive fal-

As textile parleys fail

ting China-U.S. political relations, described by foreign diplomats as "in the doldrums" and by some Chinese observers as "gone sour."

Less than three weeks before the Shultz visit, China said it would hold a second round of consultations with the Soviet Union in March on improving relations between the two Communist powers. These relations were close during the 1950s, but grew bitter over differences in ideology and territorial disputes.

Economic issues figure heavily on Shultz's agenda. Chinese leaders see these problems as part of the overall political relationship with Washington.

China announces price reform program

PEKING, Jan. 18 (AFP) — China Tuesday announced the first phase of a price reform program under which prices for textile goods and various consumer items are to be adjusted.

The New China News Agency said that from Thursday selling prices would go down 20 to 30 percent in the case of man-made fabrics, while prices of cotton goods will rise 20 percent.

"The decision is aimed at rationalizing price parities between chemical fiber products and cotton textiles, boosting the growth of the textile industry and providing better clothing for the people," the agency said.

At the same time the Chinese authorities have decided that certain consumer products

China has complained bitterly about U.S. textile quotas and the restriction of U.S. technology, such as computers and sophisticated machinery with possible military applications.

China's position on the textiles issue is that the United States should give China better treatment because of an unfavorable trade balance. The U.S. side is under heavy domestic pressure to restrict imports to protect the domestic textile industry.

U.S. figures show China bought about \$2.5 billion worth of U.S. goods in the first 10 months of 1982 and sold about \$1.9 billion in goods to the United States, leaving a \$600 million trade deficit with the United States.

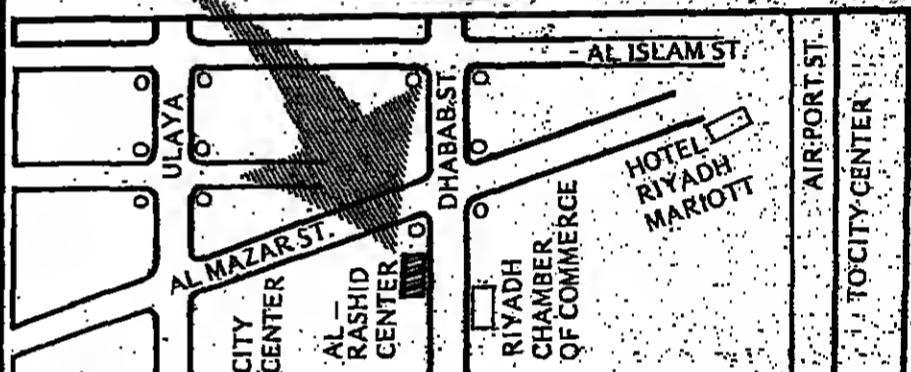
will fall in price. They include watches down 10 percent, color TV sets 17 percent, photographic film 16 percent, alarm clocks eight to 15 percent and fans eight percent. A Western expert judged that this was the first stage in an overall adjustment in prices.

Premier Zhao Ziyang said in November that the nation had to "give full scope to the regulatory role of various economic levers, particularly pricing." He challenged one of the main planks of Maoism.

Hitherto the prices of virtually all products have been set by the state without reference to production cost fluctuations. Reform of the current price system is imperative," Zhao said. Adding that all "rational" must nevertheless be avoided.

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'Group of 10' to hike IMF fund

PARIS, Jan. 18 (Agencies) — Finance ministers of the Group of 10 leading industrial nations and Switzerland Tuesday agreed to boost the lending resources which the International Monetary Fund (IMF) can draw on to relieve the financial problems of Third World countries.

In a meeting here, they agreed to nearly double their internal lending facility, the General Arrangements to Borrow (GAB), with effect from 1984, official sources said.

The facility will be increased to 17 billion special drawing rights (\$18.7 billion) from the present 6 billion SDRs (\$6.5 billion).

The ministers agreed to open up the facility to the IMF if it faces a cash shortage, its task of helping countries in financial difficulty to repay debt and reduce balance of payments problems, the sources added. Until now GAB funds have been available only to the Group of 10 countries.

The expansion of the GAB forms part of a multimillion-dollar package expected to be agreed at the IMF interim committee meeting in Washington on Feb. 10 and 11 to relieve strains on the International Monetary System, ease the problems of debtor nations, and strengthen the resources of the IMF.

The debt problem has grown rapidly in the past two years as the recession hit world trade and commodity prices, adding to the domestic problems of the highly indebted Third World and Communist nations. When Mexico announced last August it could not meet interest payments, there was open international concern that the whole financial and banking system was at risk.

Short-term arrangements were made, but to meet the longer term need to refinance the loans, Western nations said the resources of the International Monetary Fund should be substantially increased.

The second element of the plan is expected

to involve a 50 percent increase from 1984 in the current level of quotas or contributions that the IMF receives from its 146 member countries. This money is used for loans to members in temporary difficulties.

Switzerland has formally applied to become a full member of the Group of 10 and a full participant of the GAB, the official sources said. At present Switzerland only has observer status, and its participation in the GAB was contracted through bilateral agreements with each of the 10 members.

The present members of the Group of 10 are the United States, West Germany, Britain, France, Italy, Japan, Canada, the Netherlands, Belgium, and Sweden.

That meeting was recently brought for-

ward from April because of the urgency of meeting the debt situation. The ministers will hear both Regan and the French host, Finance Minister Jacques Delors, urge a resumption of expansion in countries which have got their inflation and interest rates under control.

The U.S. treasury believes that expansion is now under way in its economy, and thinks West Germany, Britain and Japan can start moving too, according to a U.S. aide.

Delors has spoken of using the "room to maneuver" of the economies of unspecified nations, arguing their expansion will start a positive chain reaction. All the ministers are expected to endorse caution in such expansion to avoid a return to high inflation.

aerospace plants outside Naples were completely unmanned and a company spokesman said the entire workforce had set off to join a mass demonstration in the city.

The center of Milan was the scene of the biggest demonstration, in which 200,000 workers marched past the city's Gothic Cathedral preceded by a brass band.

In Rome, union leaders linked arms at the head of a procession but were asked by police to keep clear of the city center where 10 days ago police clashed with workers outside Prime Minister Amintore Fanfani's office.

Unionists estimated that over 100,000 workers attended the Rome demonstration, while police put the number at only 25,000.

The strike was called by Italy's three big trade union federations, the Communists-dominated CGIL, Catholic-inspired CISL and Socialist-led UIL, who asked transport, commerce and state office employees to join seven million industrial workers in the strike.

Strike halts Italy's industries

ROME, Jan. 18 (R) — Italy's major industries were paralyzed Tuesday when millions of workers staged an eight-hour general strike to protest against government austerity measures and stalled wage negotiations.

Hundreds of thousands of workers carrying banners proclaiming trade union unity marched through Italy's major cities in a show of defiance.

Companies in the industrial heartland of northern Italy reported a high level of strike participation. Many white collar workers also stayed away because of heavy picketing.

A spokesman for Fiat, Italy's biggest car producer, said less than 35 percent of the work force clocked in at the company's huge Mirafiori plant in Turin, which employs more than 70,000 people.

In Milan, a Pirelli spokesman said the company's main tire plant was at a standstill with nearly all workers on strike. In the south, assembly lines at Alfa Romeo's car and

aircraft plants outside Naples were completely unmanned and a company spokesman said the entire workforce had set off to join a mass demonstration in the city.

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EEC on Spain's

'olive oil lake'

BRUSSELS, Jan. 18 (R) — European Economic Community farm ministers tried and failed Tuesday to work out what to do with a threatened "olive oil lake" when Spain joins the community.

The U.S. treasury believes that expansion is now under way in its economy, and thinks West Germany, Britain and Japan can start moving too, according to a U.S. aide.

Delors has spoken of using the "room to maneuver" of the economies of unspecified nations, arguing their expansion will start a positive chain reaction. All the ministers are expected to endorse caution in such expansion to avoid a return to high inflation.

Several community members have said they fear that selling off the surplus could cost up to \$1 billion a year if existing olive oil price support systems are not reformed.

French Farm Minister Edith Cresson told reporters France insisted that the community impose a tax on all vegetable oils and fats to finance the surplus.

French Deputy Agriculture Minister Alick Buchanan-Smith rejected the idea and the United States, with annual soyabean sales to the community of \$3.5 billion, has threatened retaliation against such a tax.

The olive oil surplus upon Spain's entry could be as high as 200,000 tons, community officials estimate.

Foreign Exchange Rates

Quoted at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday		Call	Transfer
Bahrain Dinar	9.14	9.14	
Bangladesh Taka	14.20	14.30	
Belgian Franc (1,000)	75.90		
Canadian Dollar	282.00		
Deutsch Mark (100)	146.00	144.20	
Dutch Guilder (100)	134.00	131.20	
Egyptian Pound	3.23	3.20	
Emirates Dirham (100)	93.75	93.75	
French Franc (1,000)	51.20	51.00	
Greek Drachma (1,000)	35.06		
Indian Rupee (100)	35.10		
Iranian Rial (100)		6.25	
Iraqi Dinar	25.40	25.20	
Japanese Yen (1,000)	15.30	15.00	
Jordanian Dinar	9.85	9.80	
Kuwaiti Dinar	11.93	11.92	
Lebanese Lira (100)	91.00	91.20	
Moroccan Dirham (100)	55.50	55.50	
Pakistani Rupee (100)	28.10	27.00	
Philippine Peso (100)	37.70		
Pound Sterling	5.50	5.45	
Qatari Rial (100)	94.56	94.60	
Singapore Dollar (100)	166.50		
Spanish Peseta (1,000)	273.00		
Swiss Franc (100)	176.50	176.00	
Syrian Lira (100)	62.00	61.50	
Turkish Lira (1,000)	3.45	3.44	
U.S. Dollar	75.10	75.25	
Yemeni Rial (100)			

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Financial Roundup

Dollar rates chalk up gains

By J. H. Hammoud

JEDDAH, Jan. 18 — The American currency took the Tuesday European markets by storm and made significant gains especially against the German mark and French franc. The British pound which had seemed stabilized and firmed Monday following the vigorous denunciations of the exchange markets by Mrs. Thatcher, fell back also under the dollar's Tuesday advances.

West German Farm Minister Joseph Ertl said after Tuesday's talks there was still deadlock on how to handle the olive oil dilemma, which has seriously delayed Spain's negotiations to join the 10-nation community. The problem is also holding up Portugal's entry as several members insist Spain and Portugal join at the same time.

Several community members have said they fear that selling off the surplus could cost up to \$1 billion a year if existing olive oil price support systems are not reformed.

French Farm Minister Edith Cresson told reporters France insisted that the community impose a tax on all vegetable oils and fats to finance the surplus.

French Deputy Agriculture Minister Alick Buchanan-Smith rejected the idea and the United States, with annual soyabean sales to the community of \$3.5 billion, has threatened retaliation against such a tax.

The reason for the dollar's turnaround was a mixture of profit-taking sales for the other currencies as well as the belief that the U.S. Federal Reserve Board might not decide to cut back on its discount rate after all. This anticipation of at least a 1/2 percent discount rate cut by the "Fed" had pushed the dollar down by degrees on both the exchange and money markets over the past several months.

The money markets are now retrenching and building up their dollar positions based on a revised expectation that U.S. interest rates might not fall as fast as had been expected.

On Monday night, the Federal Reserve's

"Fed fund" prime lending rate had in fact risen to 8 1/4 percent from 8 1/4 percent Friday night New York closing levels. This surprise rise is "Fed fund" rates started the firming process for Eurodollar deposits on the money markets.

In Europe on Tuesday the one-month Eurodollar rate was quoted 1/2 percent higher in active trading at around 8 1/4 - 9 percent levels while the one-year rate was quoted at 9 1/4 percent levels. The money markets were now expecting continental interest rates to fall, and the German currency particularly suffered on expectations

of a cut in the German Lombard discount rates possibly on this Thursday.

The mark fell back by nearly 400 points Tuesday to 2,395 levels from 2,351 on Monday. The Bundesbank did not intervene too aggressively in support of the mark.

In other currency news the French franc fell to 6,7790 levels from 6,7580 levels on opening. This compared very badly to the 6,6780 levels reached Monday and puts the franc under pressure on the European Monetary System. The Swiss franc was weaker at around 1,9600 levels, still suffering from falls in Swiss interest rates the previous week.

The British pound was depressed Tuesday following the dollar's rapid rise. Gold traded some \$15 lower at \$485 an ounce in London after it had touched the \$500 barrier in New York the night before. Silver prices fell back in heavy profit-taking to take the price to \$12.15 an ounce from \$13.00 record highs reached Monday. Some volatility is expected in the coming few days.

The local markets were more active Tuesday and the spot riyal/dollar exchange rates rose to 3,4405-06 levels compared to Monday's dull trading at 3,4401-05 prices.

Local deposit rates also rose by about 1/4 percent to take the week-fixed by 4 1/2 - 4 1/4 percent and the one-month JIBOR to 5 - 5 1/2 percent.

LONDON (AP) — Closing gold prices (in U.S. dollars per troy ounce):

London	485.50

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Takes Test into final day

Defiant India keeps Pakistan at bay

HYDERABAD. Jan. 18 (Agencies) — India displayed defiance and grit. Their batsmen raised a glimmer of hope of saving the fourth cricket Test against Pakistan here with a superlative display of batsmanship on the fourth day here Tuesday.

The much-vaunted Indian batting, which has been bludgeoned by the Pakistani pace battery led by the versatile Imran Khan, reared a defiant head against the pace and spin attack of Pakistan. They held out for a full day for 198 for three, and will resume battle, 194 runs behind, on the final day with seven wickets in their hand.

The wicket played true, and Gavaskar and Srikkanth started fresh in India's battle for survival. But Srikkanth did not last long with Imran breaking through early. It seemed that India would follow their regular pattern — bucking under the pressure. But Sunil Gavaskar and Mohinder Amarnath, promoted in the batting order, had different ideas.

The little master, who had carried his bat through the Faisalabad Test while wickets tumbled at the other end, was once again in the thick of action. An absorbing tussle bet-

ween the bat and the ball was resumed, with champion bowler Imran bringing out every trick up his sleeve to dislodge Gavaskar, and the latter drawing on his vast experience to counter all Imran's wiles.

Mohinder Amarnath, who has been amongst the runs for India in this series, also soldiered along with his captain. The free-stroking Amarnath curbed his natural instincts to go for the bowling and selected the ball to play his shots.

Imran marshalled his resources intelligently. He employed a double pace, double

spin and as well as a pace-spin attack in his search for a breakthrough. But the two Indian batsmen weathered all the Pakistani attack could muster. The need of the hour was restraint and immense application. And both Gavaskar and Amarnath displayed it to the full.

However, like all good things, both their innings came to an end simultaneously. And the bowler to give Pakistan the much-wanted breakthrough was left-arm off-spinner Iqbal Qasim.

He first trapped Sunil Gavaskar to make an injudicious drive, and soon had Amarnath caught. Gavaskar failed to keep his off drive down and Qasim moved quickly to grab the chance. Gavaskar had made 60 and India's score was 133. And Qasim struck immediately, having Mohinder caught by Imran for 64 with the total at 134.

Another Indian collapse looked on the cards. But Gundappa Viswanath and Dilip Vengsarkar, both going through a lean period, stemmed the rot. And both could not have come to form at a much better time than Tuesday.



Gavaskar ... a fighting 60

Deadly spell by Shaukat

By a Staff Writer

JEDDAH. Jan. 18 — A fiery spell by Shalimar's Shaukat was the highlight of his side's emphatic 160-run victory over Tihama in the Alireza Cricket League last Friday.

He captured six wickets at a personal cost of 25 runs in his nine-over spell to wreck Tihama, who were set a near-impossible task of overhauling Shalimar's 219 for nine in their allotted overs. Tihama folded up without any fight for a mere 59 with only Assad (10) and Hanif (29) crossing double figures.

Earlier, Shalimar had won the toss and rated up the massive total on the strength of Shafiqat (38), Saleem (41) and Inam (36 not out). Saleem was Tihama's successful bowler with five for 96.

There were two all-round performances in the match between Pak Saudi and Zahid Tractors. One for Pak Saudi by Nasim, and another for Tractors by Sohail. Sohail's valiant performance went in vain as Pak Saudi defeated Tractors by two wickets and seven balls to spare. Sohail cracked a brilliant 90 in his side's 215 for nine with Qazi (25), Mahmood (20) and Mujahid (20) being the other useful contributors. Nasim, with four for 49, and Amin, with three for 63, were the most impressive Pak Saudi bowlers.

And when Pak Saudi crashed to 118 for five after a bright start, paced by Shabbaz's (41), things looked rosy for Tractors. But they had to reckon with Nasim, Nasim (70) and Amin (25) shared 70 runs for the sixth-wicket and put Pak Saudi on the victory path. And they made it after losing three more wickets. Mujahid (four for 63) and Sohail (three for 90) were the successful bowlers.

Rangers Green's Adnan's deadly seven for 30 featured in the Ranger's seven-wicket win over Bank Al Jazira.

Villa, Barcelona seek to put best foot forward

BARCELONA. Spain. Jan. 18 (Agencies) — Managers Tony Barton of Aston Villa and Udo Lattek of Barcelona are both desperate for victory in the European Supercup soccer final — but for vastly different reasons.

European champions Villa go into Wednesday's first-leg here with one eye on their European Cup quarterfinal clash with Italy's Juventus in March. But Barton knows his side, seventh in the English First Division and with only seven goals away from home in the league, are not at their best.

He needs the Supercup to restore Villa's sagging confidence and avenge the 2-0 defeat by Uruguay's Penarol in the World Club Championship in Tokyo. Cup Winners' Cup holders Barcelona, still without their Argentine World Cup star Diego Maradona who has hepatitis, are third in the Spanish First Division with one of the best defensive records in the league.

But after losing a six-point lead last season, Lattek knows his days in charge are numbered, particularly with Argentina's former national boss Cesar Menotti earmarked to take over. With Barcelona's rivals Real Madrid on top of the league, victory in the Super-

Olson leads in Grand Prix

NEW YORK. Jan. 18 (AP) — Pole Vaulter Billy Olson, winner of last year's meet's title in the 800 at Ottawa, Sosthenes Bink of Kenya and Emmie King of Alabama were tied for third place among the men at 20.5 points.

High jumper Louise Ritter, the winner at Ottawa and Sherbrooke, and Jennifer Inniss of Guyana, winner of the long jump and sprint at Sherbrooke, were tied for the women's lead with 20 points apiece.

A total of \$150,000 in prize money will be awarded at the end of the Grand Prix competition — the Mobil-USA National Championships Feb. 25 at Madison Square Garden. All prize money will be awarded to the Athletics Congress member club for which the athlete competes in the championships.

Top players for Jeddah Open Tennis

By a Staff Writer

indoor performance for the season when she cleared 1.96 meters during the Vladimir Boulatov Memorial Meeting here Tuesday, the Soviet news agency Tass reported.

New sponors

LONDON. Jan. 18 (AP) — The Dunlop Masters, which has been one of Europe's top golf tournaments for the last 37 years, now will be called the Silk Cut Masters; the Professional Golfers' Association announced. Silk Cut will sponsor the 100,000 pounds event for the next three years.

Aussies ahead

ROTTERDAM. Jan. 18 (AFP) — The Australian pair of Danny Clark and Doji Aljan lead the field after the fourth day of the Rotterdam six days cycling event here.

Kiwis blot Aussies' pad in One-Day clash

SYDNEY. Australia. Jan. 18 (AP) — Australian captain Kim Hughes will play the recalled Dennis Lillee in one of the World Series Cup clashes in Melbourne this weekend.

This was the Australian skipper's reaction to his loss Tuesday night to New Zealand by 47 runs at the Sydney Cricket Ground. Chasing the New Zealand's total of 226 for eight the Australians could only manage 179 in 45.3 overs.

Howard had predicted at the nets Monday that Australia had a breaking point and if early pressure was applied they could fold. His prediction bore fruit Tuesday night when New Zealand had the previously unbeaten line-up reeling at 29 for three.

The Australian total would have looked very sick but for the 116-run stand between David Hookes (68) and Kepler Wessels (56). But Hughes, who made no excuses for the

Score-board

Australia	
I. Dyson run out	1
K. Wessels c Cairns b Snedden	56
G. Chappell c Webb b Snedden	56
K. Hughes c and b Cairns	1
G. Turner run out	68
R. Hadlee c Chappell b Thomson	11
D. Hookes run out	6
A. Border c Hadlee b Cairns	11
R. Marsh b Cairns	6
G. Lawson run out	0
J. Thomson b Cairns	0
R. Hogg not out	3
C. Rackemann lbw Hadlee	2
Extras	20
Total (for 8 wkt.)	226
Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-65, 3-93, 4-159, 5-167, 6-191, 7-194, 8-226.	179-45.3.
Bowling: Lawson 10-3-33-1; Hogg 10-2-32-2; Thomson 10-0-42-2; Rackemann 10-0-59-0; Chappell 10-0-37-2.	

New Zealand

J. Wright c Marsh b Hogg

B. Edgar b Chappell

G. Howard c Marsh b Chappell

G. Turner b Thomson

J. Crowe run out

R. Hadlee c Chappell b Thomson

D. Hookes c Marsh b Lawson

L. Cooley c Border b Hogg

P. Webb not out

Extras

Total (for 8 wkt.)

Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-65, 3-93, 4-159, 5-167, 6-191, 7-194, 8-226.

Bowling: Lawson 10-3-33-1; Hogg 10-2-32-2; Thomson 10-0-42-2; Rackemann 10-0-59-0; Chappell 10-0-37-2.

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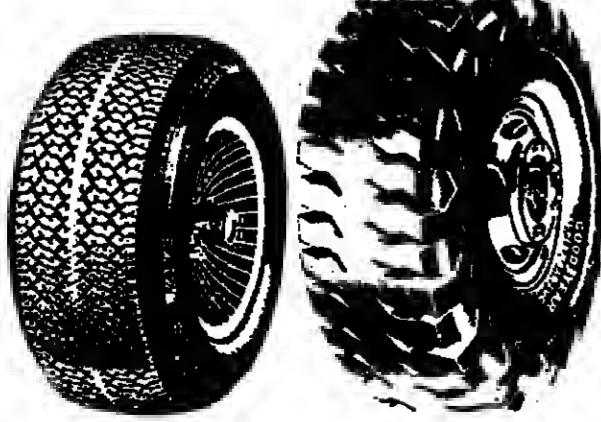
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With Cartwright, Robinson and Westphal excelling

Knicks stave off Bulls' late rally

NEW YORK, Jan. 18 (AP) — The New York Knicks needed a big scorer. So Bill Cartwright came through for them. So did Tracy Robinson. Ditto Paul Westphal.

The three veterans, each of whom has averaged more than 20 points per game at least twice in his career, have rarely reached that total this season. But all three players exceeded their season highs in scoring Monday night, to lead New York to a 119-109 National Basketball Association victory over the Chicago Bulls.

Cartwright led the Knicks with 28 points, one more than his season best, while Robinson had 26 points. Westphal's 25 points were six more than he has had for the Knicks in any game since they signed him last March 13.

Big scorer Bernard King was injured Friday night after leading New York in scoring for 18 straight games. He is averaging 22.6 points per game, while Cartwright, Westphal

and Robinson have combined for an average of only 28.9.

"Only getting eight or so shots a game is kind of hard for me to take when I used to get 20 a game," said Robinson, who leads the team in rebounding but is averaging only 7.5 points. "But we have a system that calls for King to shoot."

Robinson said he realized that when King recovers, "We'll go back to Bernard King. But my confidence will be better." Reggie Theus, who had only six points at halftime, led Chicago with 31, while Dave Corzine had 18 and Orlando Woolridge 17 for the Bulls.

Theus had 10 Chicago points in a row, including two three-point plays, early in the third quarter to reverse an 11-point deficit. But a 9-0 streak by the Knicks gave them an 81-73 lead. New York then scored the first eight points of the fourth period for a 93-79 edge, the first of three occasions on which the Knicks led by 14.

ICAO steals the show in Softball League

By NANCIE NEILAN-ASHE

JEDDAH, Jan. 18 — The Slow Pitch Softball League is again underway with some teams displaying their "guts" for improved play following the holidays.

Among them is the ICAO team of "famer" — Joe Strange. Their win over previously unbeaten Raytheon R & R by a score of 19-12 easily surpasses things that go bump in the night as decidedly outside the norm. It now appears that maybe Raytheon R & R is in the right division after all following another loss on their part to the "A" Division Killer Bees. 17-6. That matchup was also for the "Perseverance Trophy", which Raytheon won hands down.

ICAO, following the victory over Raytheon proceeded to thrash once powerful Lockheed II, 19-2. We can't figure out what is happening to these former barons of the diamond in either league. Lockheed I of the "A" Division is static one week and nearly brilliant the next. The brilliance is in spite of an infielder and one outfielder that are huge in lungpower and oral cavity capacity.

Raytheon R & R did not lose all their games as they did manage an 8-5 victory over ICAO earlier in the month, and barely managed to beat Whittaker. Everyone's friend in the win-loss race, by a squeaking 10-9. Raytheon's MVP of the game was Whittaker's "Gordo".

In other cross division rivalry, "B" Division's PCS pulled off a one-run victory over the "A" Division Vaudeville Travelling Road Show of the Pratt & Whitney Eagles. 3-2. The Corp of Engineers of the "B" Division also stood in line to smack Pratt & Whitney, only they hit harder, 18-3.

In a reversal of roles, the "A" Division teams of the Killer Bees and BD All Stars reigned on the parade of "B" Division upstart DATA. The BD All Stars danced across DATA's ballroom, led by the flashing feet

of Randy Vincent, Les Williams and "Mammouth" Fred Casey, by a score of 12-5. The Bees came along and sucked up what was left of DATA's honey by a devastating 22-1.

As if DATA had not had enough! This past month also saw them; 1- get the paper changed in their cage by KAIA, 15-8; 2- get rebated by Bendix 16-9 and finally; 3- end up bent, spindled and mutilated by Parsons Daniel, 21-6. I have been informed by DATA coach, Larry Escamilla, the team can receive visitors between 4:00 and 6:00 p.m. Tuesday through Wednesday at the Open Air Shock Therapy and Fat Farm. We wish them a speedy recovery.

Speaking of unusual events, Bendix not only beat DATA, they also manipulated themselves into a victory over MOPCL. Bendix has now won three games while MOPCL is still stuck with one memorable victory. But, not to let Bendix get carried away with their new found sense of self worth, they also lost two in addition to winning two.

In a more winning form, Lockheed II beat them 9-6 and in a real ho-hum, yawn of a game. Corp of Engineers stayed awake long enough to outdo Bendix 15-3. The Corp of Engineers team, home of Glenn "Super How they stand

How they stand

		Odds League			
		W	L	RF	RA
Meridian Vets		9	3	140	66
Killer Bees		12	5	176	82
Lockheed I		10	7	114	93
BD All Stars		9	11	116	97
Pratt/Whitney Eagles		8	12	84	270
		Wadi Division			
		W	L	RF	RA
Raytheon R&R		10	2	138	84
Corp of Eng.		9	4	134	86
Sogex		7	4	111	103
Pan Am		6	5	123	111
ICAO		5	5	125	85
MOPCL		1	9	55	157
Whittaker		1	10	75	132

Odds League

Wadi Division

Passport Lost

Abdul Rahman bin Daim, Malaysian national. Date of birth: July 1, 1933 has lost his Passport No. A0143918, issued at Jeddah on July 7, 1980. Finder please contact Malaysian Embassy, Jeddah or return to Saudi Airlines, C.C. 825, P. O. Box: 167 - Jeddah.

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Greece wants state for Palestinians

ATHENS, Jan. 18 (R) — Greece, which is due to assume the presidency of the European Community later this year, Tuesday condemned Western sanctions over martial law in Poland and called for Palestinian self-determination.

Addressing a conference of U.S. congressmen and deputies from the European Parliament, Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou said Greece had strongly attacked the imposition of martial law in Poland 13 months ago. But he added: "The imposition of sanctions is anything but favorable to democratization (in Poland). On the contrary, it creates a climate of confrontation."

He said that because there was a danger of world war, the improvement of the climate of East-West relations must take top priority among foreign policy considerations. On the Middle East, Papandreou said "certainly Israel has the right to live within secure frontiers. But equally the Palestinians have the right to autonomy, to live within their own state."

Papandreou did not make clear whether his Socialist government was still calling for a fully independent Palestinian state, as it has done in the past. Late last year, while stressing Greece's total diplomatic support for the

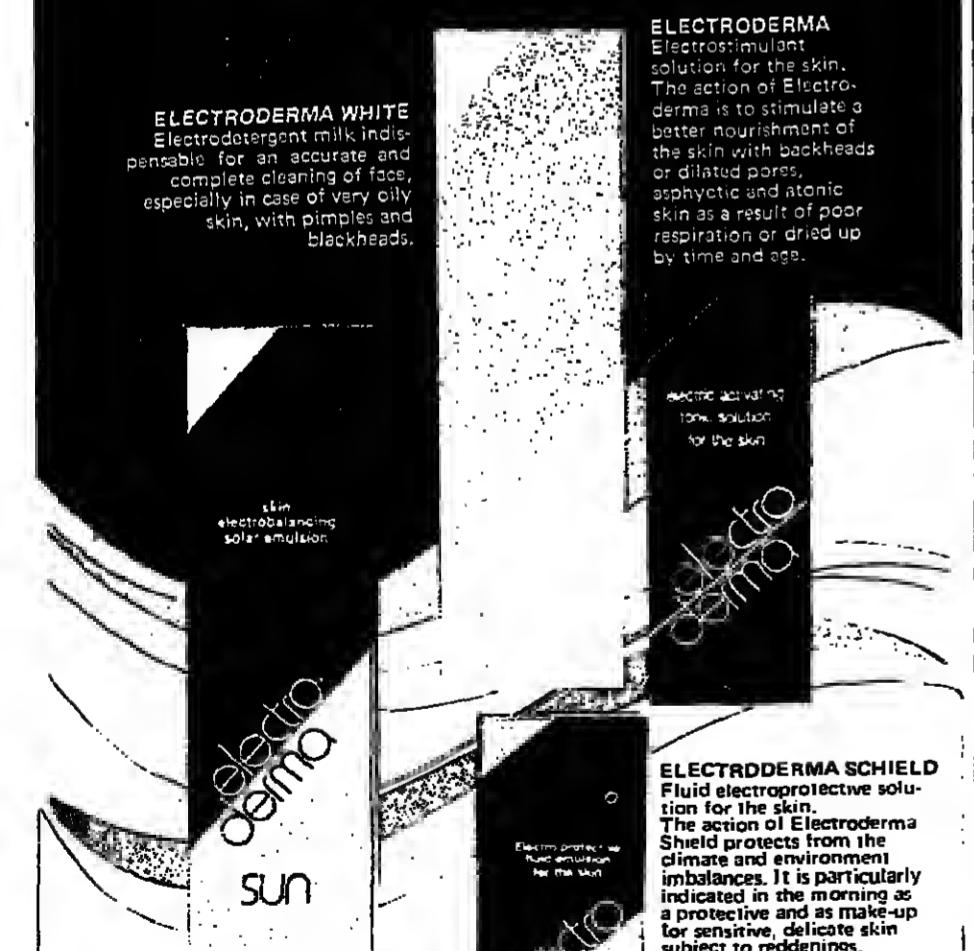
Laos alleges Thai shelling

BANGKOK, Jan. 18 (AFP) — Laos Tuesday charged that Thai patrol boats had pounded its capital Vientiane with machinegun and mortar fire, killing four civilians and wounding several others.

In the most serious flareup on their Mekong River frontier in months, the official Laos news agency KPL said two Thai vessels opened fire on the riverside capital shortly after 8 p.m. Monday night without provocation. The news agency, quoting a foreign ministry spokesman, gave a different toll, however, than the state radio which earlier reported one Lao dead and three wounded in the incident.

The Laos Foreign Ministry summoned Thailand's ambassador in Vientiane, Sompone Faichamps, to seek clarification of the firing and told its envoy in Bangkok, Khamphan Simmalavong, to take up the matter in Thailand, the news agency said. Thai navy officials contacted at the border by AFP, meanwhile said they had merely replied to shots from Laos while on routine patrol on the Thai side.

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SALUTES: The Prince of Wales salutes New York when he and Princess Diana attended a reception at the Royal Academy in London Monday to launch "Britain Salutes New York 1983". It is Britain's biggest ever overseas arts festival and will open in New York in April. The festival commemorates the bicentenary of the signing of the peace treaty that ended the Revolutionary War in 1783.

Hijackers melt into Thai village

BANGKOK, Jan. 18 (AP) — Three armed air pirates, releasing the last of their seven hostages, tried to melt into the northern Thai countryside after the authorities allowed them leave the aircraft. They hijacked and sped off in a truck, police said.

Police in Chiang Mai Province, contacted by telephone, said the seven hostages were found in the village of Khong Khaw, 10 kilometers south of Chiang Mai airport. All seven, including a three-year-old boy, were reported in good condition.

Police said a dragnet was being thrown around the area to snare the hijackers, who earlier Tuesday seized a domestic Thai Airways plane bound for Chiang Mai and initially held four crew members and 11 passengers hostage. The official Radio Thailand said the three would probably try to disguise their identities, change clothes and flee into the countryside, which includes stretches of rugged, mountainous country dubbed "the golden triangle."

The latest flareup came as Laos hosted the 16th session of the Interim Mekong Committee, which links it with Thailand and Vietnam to study means of developing the lower reaches of the river they share.

Communication lines affected

Hurricane hits western Denmark

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 18 (API) — Two women were killed and two were hurt Tuesday when hurricane-force winds blew a section of roof from Denmark's parliament building onto one of Copenhagen's busiest business streets, police said.

An officer of the Copenhagen Fire Department estimated that 10 tons of wood and copper fell onto the victims, apparently waiting for buses. Authorities said his riders pulled the first survivors from the rubble.

The roof section was lifted from a three-story building containing anterooms connecting the church of parliament with the reception chamber used by Queen Margrethe II when she visits the Folketing.

Police and bystanders had to brace against

Chun repeats call to unite Koreas

SEOUL, Jan. 18 (AFP) — South Korean President Chun Doo Hwan Tuesday repeated a proposal to his North Korean counterpart, Kim Il Sung, for a direct meeting to work for national unification.

In a New Year's speech at the National Assembly, Chun also promised a liberalization of laws against dissidents. He said South Korean defense would be strengthened, and that he would work to improve ties with Japan and other Pacific neighbors.

Discussing a possible North-South summit, he said: "I emphasize that a North-South summit must be held as quickly as possible, while there must not and cannot be any precondition for a get-together of the two top leaders." He said he was renewing the summit proposal in order to abolish what he termed an unnatural relationship between

South and North Korea. Chun first made such a proposal in early 1981.

Analysts recalled that North Korea had flatly rejected that call, either by saying that it would not deal with what it called the fascist regime in Seoul or by demanding the restoration of democracy in South Korea. In the nationally televised speech, Chun said that should a summit take place, it would generate and epochal impetus to ease tension between the two Koreas, prevent the recurrence of war and create conditions favorable to peaceful unification of the country.

At the same time, Chun emphasized that South Korean defense would be strengthened to deter aggression and to assure victory in the event of a war. Touching on the nation's foreign policy, Chun pledged efforts to intensify security ties with the United

States.

He also said that the recent visit to Seoul of Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone had marked a turning point in Japanese-Korean relations. He said his government would spare no effort to improve ties with Tokyo. He also said efforts will continue to promote cooperation with other Pacific basin nations, and repeated a call for a Pacific summit conference.

Chun also said he would soon take steps to liberalize the nation's politics, by lifting a political ban imposed on former politicians. He did not specify how many of the 560 politicians banned until 1988 by the political banishment law would benefit from the grace.

Talks on Sikh demands fail

NEW DELHI, Jan. 18 (AFP) — Talks between Sikhs leaders and a ministerial panel appointed by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi failed Tuesday to find a solution to the Sikh demand for autonomy for Punjab state, the Press Trust of India news agency reported. The agency also reported that another Sikh leader had ruled out any further talks with the government.

The talks ended without any tangible results," the agency reported from Chandigarh, where the talks took place. The agency quoted the federal interior minister, P.C. Sethi, who led the three-member ministerial panel, as saying that "some of the issues were still to be clinched." One Sikh leader attending the talks told Sethi that they had given all the clarifications needed by the federal government. The government so far has rejected the Sikh demands for autonomy in Punjab, which has a majority of Sikhs.

Troops sent to blunt Salvador rebel attack

SAN SALVADOR, Jan. 18 (AP) — Some 4,200 government soldiers were rushed into Morazan Province Monday to blunt a major advance by leftist guerrillas in that mountainous area of northeastern El Salvador.

An officer in San Miguel, who asked anonymity for security reasons, called it a "total operation," aimed at rooting out the rebels from a large chunk of territory and at least 13 towns they control. The guerrillas were last reported advancing on San Francisco Gotera, the provincial capital, 160 km northeast of San Salvador.

hurricane-force wind gusts that sent debris flying up to 100 meters away.

"We are being careful. We are afraid the other section of the roof may go," a police spokesman said. "The winds are increasing."

The meteorological institute reported the storm reached peak intensity Tuesday morning in the western part of Denmark. It was expected to reach full strength in the eastern part of the country, including Copenhagen, by early afternoon.

Authorities in other parts of the country reported major disruptions from the storm. At least 22 ferry lines canceled services, isolating some of the country's more than 400 islands. Several ferries caught by the storm were riding it out offshore.

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	Min C	Max F	Min C	Max F
Amsterdam	6	43	8	46
Austria	6	43	13	55
Azerbaijan	12	25	20	55
Bangkok	22	23	33	91
Barbados	23	73	28	82
Beirut	6	43	11	52
Berlin	3	37	5	41
Brussels	2	36	8	46
Buenos Aires	20	68	21	80
Calcutta	15	45	14	55
Chicago	-10	15	-5	34
Copenhagen	5	41	8	46
Dublin	3	37	7	45
Frankfurt	4	39	9	48
Geneva	17	28	9	48
Helsinki	5	21	21	70
Hong Kong	17	63	19	66
Honolulu	16	62	28	82
Jakarta	23	73	32	90
Kuala Lumpur	23	73	34	93
Lisbon	7	45	15	59
London	5	41	6	43
Los Angeles	14	57	19	65
Madrid	23	73	36	97
Manila	8	46	18	64
Miami	12	54	22	72
Montreal	-16	3	-13	9
Moscow	-1	30	1	34
New Delhi	4	43	21	70
New York	-6	48	-1	30
Nicosia	-9	48	-15	59
Peking	-5	23	2	36
Rio de Janeiro	25	77	35	95
San Francisco	8	48	12	54
Singapore	23	73	24	58
Stockholm	-8	48	-2	28
Sydney	19	66	26	79
Taipei	11	52	14	57
Tokyo	3	37	8	46

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